

Community Viewpoints & Priorities

A Citizen Participation Program Report

**Prepared for the
City of Idaho Falls
Planning Commission**

Spring & Summer, 2005



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INTRODUCTION

This report contains a summary analysis and verbatim compilation of data from the citizen participation program conducted in the spring and summer of 2005 to assist the City of Idaho Falls Planning Commission with their update of the city's comprehensive plan. The program objectives were to:

- ❖ Discover if the community feels the comprehensive plan is current.
- ❖ Learn what citizens think: values, opinion, priorities.
- ❖ Assure the program provides the Planning Commission useful information to assess the current comprehensive plan and make revision, if needed.

Citizens had a lot to tell the Planning Commission: they found both positive and negative things to say, they care about their city and appreciated the opportunity to express their opinions and ideas. Now, it is the challenge of the Planning Commission to give serious thought to these viewpoints and priorities as revisions to the city's comprehensive plan are being discussed.

The program included an ambitious set of events over a 4 month period of time. Planning Commissioners and staff from the Division of Planning and Building hosted 10 listening posts and additionally made 8 separate presentations to community groups in an effort to reach as many citizens as possible. Approximately 1,900 people directly contributed their ideas and opinions at one of these events. Listening posts and presentations provided over 60 hours for citizens to directly participate in the city's comprehensive planning process.

Part 1: Community Viewpoints Overview

The first part of the program, Community Viewpoints, asked citizens to identify their favorite place in the city, the best and worst features of the city, and their concerns about future development. Activities in this program included a large map where people could indicate their favorite place and a handout to write individual opinions.

The Snake River and Greenbelt, parks and downtown are identified as both people's favorite place and the very best features of the City of Idaho Falls. What is special about Idaho Falls: the people, the community atmosphere, cleanliness of the city, landscaping and the regional location are the best features for many citizens. People like the shopping opportunities in the city and have favorable comments about a variety of public services and the Tautphaus Park Zoo.

The city street system as a whole is considered, by far, the worst feature of the City of Idaho Falls. People had more to say about particular streets, traffic congestion, safety and maintenance than another topic. People also view downtown as a worst feature in need of revitalization as well as a best feature. Deteriorating areas with vacant or run down buildings and entrances to the city are mentioned often.

People are concerned that the city grow in an orderly manner with more balance between the east and west sides. They feel traffic will become more of a problem than it is now as growth occurs. There is a real concern about urban sprawl and the stress growth will place on infrastructure and public services. People express unease about future commercial development, especially vacant commercial spaces and big box retail.

Part II: Community Priorities Overview

The second part of the program, Community Priorities, gave citizens an opportunity to indicate their priorities for the future. People were asked to make selections from 10 of 15 actions displayed on a large kiosk. A handout provided space for people to write opinions about a concept map, designed to accommodate growth to the year 2025, located on the kiosk. In addition, the handout had a list of 15 projects, based on themes from the Community Viewpoint data, from which people could chose up to 5 items and a place for additional comment.

Both numerical rankings and citizens comments clearly show transportation is their top priority. People selected street improvements more often than any other choice with project and programs related to 17th Street as the highest priority of all. Downtown is also a significant priority. People want to see the downtown become the vital center of the city with old buildings rehabilitated and better parking. The Snake River and Greenbelt are clearly recognized as the best feature of the city, but no conspicuous direction for change is evident except to address industrial land uses along the river. Parks are also a high priority. People like the existing parks and want to see new parks as growth occurs.

Trends from opinions about the Concept Map are very apparent. Here, as well as throughout all the data, the Snake River and Greenbelt are identified as the key positive feature in the city. This is closely followed by parks and downtown. People like the low density residential areas they see on the map, commercial development near major highways and the Higher Education and Medical Centers. They suggest the present city street system is not adequate now and will not accommodate growth.

Part III: All Citizens' Comments

The final section of the report is a complete verbatim compilation of all citizen data. Part I: Community Viewpoints is followed by Part II: Community Priorities.

PART I: COMMUNITY VIEWPOINTS

Community Viewpoints is the first of a two part citizen participation program conducted to provide information to the City of Idaho Falls Planning Commission for the current update of the Comprehensive Plan. The program is built on the citizen participation goals of the City of Idaho Falls Planning Commission:

- ❖ A community based comprehensive plan.
- ❖ Work to assure a cross section of citizen involvement.
- ❖ Maintain accountability to the community.
- ❖ Provide opportunities for all citizens to participate in the comprehensive plan revision process.

Community Viewpoints is a proactive approach to learn community opinions about the best and worst features of the City of Idaho Falls, concerns about future development of the city and people's favorite places. It will be followed in July by Community Priorities, the second part of the program

Two methods were selected for Community Viewpoints activities: presentations to community groups and listening posts. These methods were chosen because they provide simple, informal ways for citizens to express their personal viewpoints. In addition, elected officials, planning commissioners and professional planners from eastern Idaho attending the Joy of Subdivision in March were asked to give their views on the best and worst features of the city. This information offers a useful visitor perspective.

LISTENING POSTS

Approximate # of participants: 1,050

Objectives

- Provide a simple informal way for Idaho Falls citizens to let the city know their viewpoints about the community and concerns about future development.
- Demonstrate the Planning Commission's willingness to listen to citizens.
- Collect information from citizens which will assist the Planning Commission with the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Create positive impressions of comprehensive planning and the City of Idaho Falls planning process.



Having Fun Participating

What

Listening Posts to collect viewpoints from the general public were held at 5 locations throughout the city on May 21st from 11 am to 3 pm. At each location a large map of the city was available for people to place a sticky dot on their favorite place. There were handouts asking the same questions as at the above presentations to community groups: What are the best features of the City of Idaho Falls? What are the worst features? What are your concerns about future development of the City? Each Listening Post was hosted by city staff and Planning Commissioners which provided an opportunity for people to also ask questions and learn more about the comprehensive planning process.

WHERE	# OF PARTICIPANTS	
	Favorite Place Map	Written Comments
Albertson's, West Broadway	186	103
Albertson's, 17th and Holmes	113	76
Smith's Food King, Woodruff	52	32
Idaho Falls Public Library	133	98
Great Harvest Bread, A Street and Historic Walking Tour	186	94

PRESENTATIONS for GROUPS

Total # of groups: 8

Approximate # of participants: 360

Objectives

- Provide a very general overview of the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Collect information from attendees, brief general comments, identifying their viewpoints on the best and worst features of the city and their concerns about future development.

What

Short 15 minute presentations were made by staff from the City's Division of Planning and Building to 7 community groups at a regular meeting and a class at

Skyline High School. The 1st part of the presentation was an overview of the City of Idaho Falls Comprehensive Plan: how the plan guides growth, why it is updated every 5 years and the citizen participation opportunities available for this year's plan update. During the 2nd part of the presentation people were invited to fill out a short handout asking: What are the best features of the City of Idaho Falls? What are the worst features? What are your concerns about future development of the City? What is your favorite place in the City? The handouts were collected and staff was available for questions after the presentations.

WHO	DATE	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Board of Women Realtors,	March 10	26
Grow Idaho Falls Annual Meeting,	March 12	96
Board of Realtors	April 20	75
Yellowstone Business Coalition	April 27	10
Skyline High School	May 2	08
Chamber of Commerce Forum	May 10	55
Service Corps of Retired Executives	May 19	13
Visitor Group - Joy of Subdivision	March 5	77

SUMMARY of RESULTS

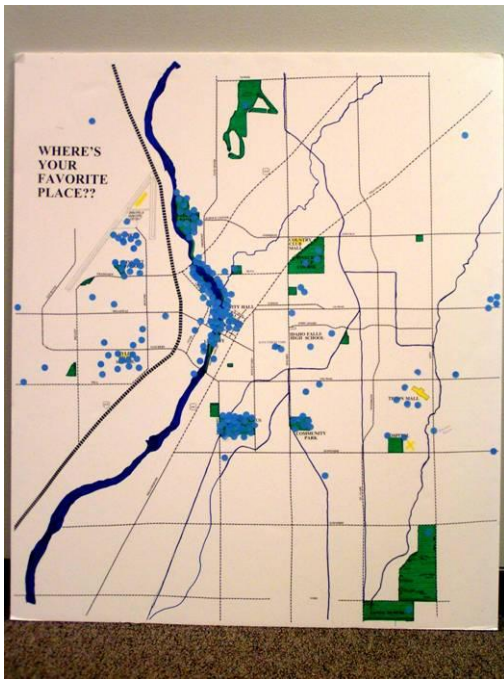
This summary of the results of the Community Viewpoints activities utilizes direct comments from the citizens and the Policy Statements of the City of Idaho Falls Comprehensive Plan, September 2000 as a framework. The citizens of the community were eloquent in describing their viewpoints and their comments best illustrate their opinions. Data was also correlated to Policy Statements to assist in addressing the Planning Commission's task. Favorite places are identified first, followed by a summary of citizen viewpoints.

Content analysis and trend analysis was used to produce the data summary. This choice was based on the fact the data is subjective. Opinions were collected using three open ended questions. Open ended questions produce a variety of answers to the same question rather than uniform statements and do not lend themselves to quantitative techniques. For example, some people simply listed a specific place such as "Greenbelt" as the best feature of the City of Idaho Falls while others made explanatory comments such as "The greenbelt is getting better and better." Many people made comments under each question related to several different topics and some people chose to answer all questions while others answered only one or two.

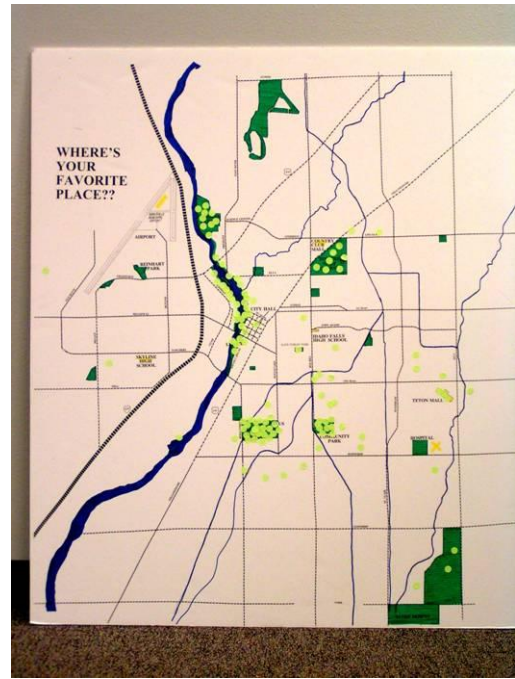
It is important to remember people were asked very general questions; therefore, all answers do not directly relate to comprehensive land use planning. Several clear trends are apparent, less prominent trends weave throughout the data and a scattering of unusual, interesting ideas can be also be found. In addition, there are comments that are difficult to understand or speak to issues and/or responsibilities outside the Planning Commission task. Micro analysis of this data is not appropriate, but taken as a whole; this information can guide the next part of the citizen participation process and preliminary plan update discussions.

FAVORITE PLACES

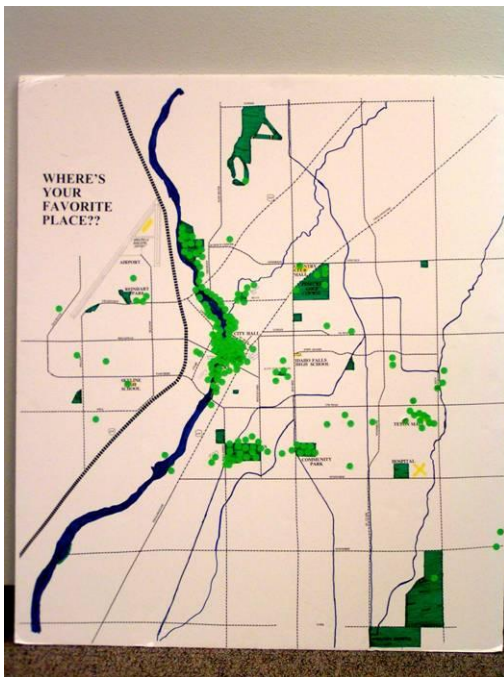
Listening Posts



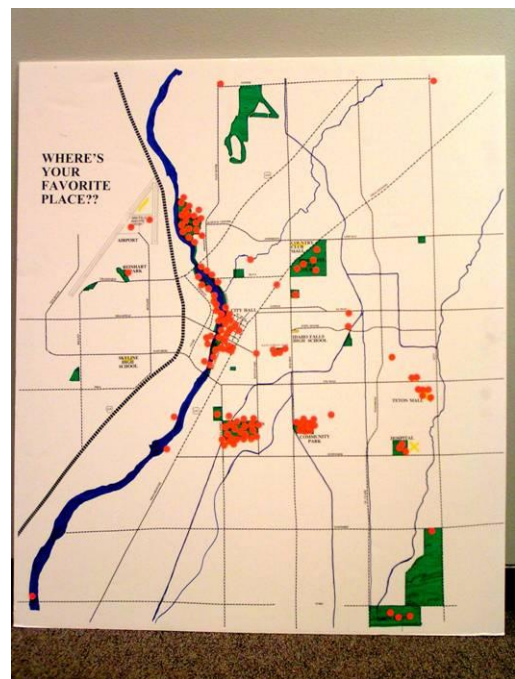
Albertson's, 17th & Holmes



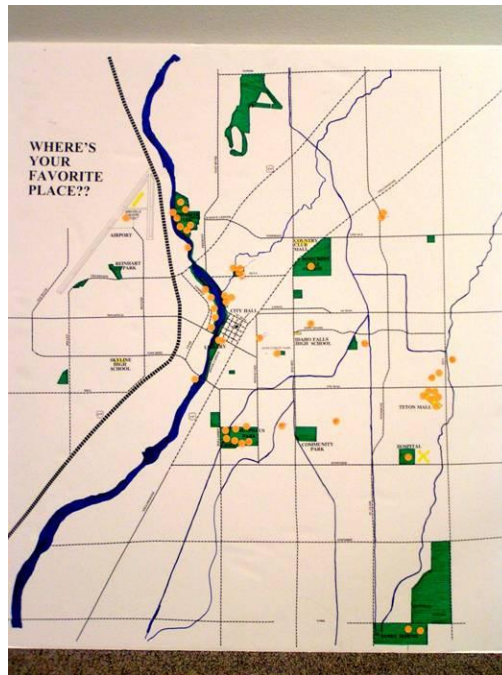
Albertson's, West Broadway



Great Harvest Bread, A St & Historic Walking Tour



Idaho Falls Public Library



Smith's Food King, Woodruff

People were asked to write their favorite place rather than put a sticky dot on a map at the Community Group presentations. Some people chose to select more than one place; therefore, their 1st answer was selected. Some people did not fill in a favorite place on their handouts.

Favorite Places, Community Group Presentations

Favorite Place	% of Total
Snake River & Greenbelt	44
City Parks	17
Tautphaus	8
Freemen	3
Community	3
All Other Parks	3
Golf Courses	9
Downtown	6
Zoo	7
My Home/Neighborhood	3
All Other Places	17
Total	100%

Leading Trends Overview Community Groups

Best	Worst	Concerns
Board of Women Realtors		
City Parks	Traffic/City Streets	NA*
Snake River & Greenbelt	Downtown	
Community Character		
Grow Idaho Falls		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Growth
City Parks	Downtown	Downtown
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	
Board of Realtors		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
Community Character	Downtown	Growth
City Parks	Taxes	Taxes
Yellowstone Business Coalition		
Community Character	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
Snake River & Greenbelt	Entrances to City	Growth
Skyline High School		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
Chamber of Commerce Forum		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Growth
City Parks	Downtown	Downtown
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	
Service Corps of Retired Executives		
City parks	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
Snake River & Greenbelt	Downtown	

* The Board of Women Realtors group was not asked the questions regarding concerns about the future development of the city.

Leading Trends Overview Listening Posts

Best	Worst	Concerns
Albertson's, West Broadway		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
City Parks	Downtown	Growth
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	
Albertson's, 17th & Holmes		
City Parks	Traffic/City Streets	Growth
Snake River & Greenbelt	Downtown	Traffic/City Streets
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	
Downtown		
Smith's Food King, Woodruff		
Community Character	Traffic/City Streets	Growth
Snake River & Greenbelt		Downtown
Idaho Falls Public Library		
City Parks	Traffic/City Streets	Traffic/City Streets
Snake River & Greenbelt	Downtown	Growth
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	Downtown
Downtown		
Great Harvest Bread, A St., Historic Walking Tour		
Snake River & Greenbelt	Traffic/City Streets	Growth
City Parks	Downtown	Traffic/City Streets
Community Character	Deteriorating areas	Downtown
Downtown		

BEST FEATURES

The information from the Community Viewpoints data shows the Snake River and Greenbelt, Community Character, City Parks and Downtown are the most popular “best features of the City of Idaho Falls”. Other “best features” mentioned by a representative number of people are: commercial areas and shopping opportunities, public services, the zoo and golf courses.

Snake River and Greenbelt/Riverwalk



People’s comments about the river itself, the falls and the greenbelt/riverwalk are included in this feature.

- River as principal feature of city center.
- The greenbelt/river flowing through the center of town.
- The greenbelt. It’s beautiful and useful for everyone.
- We have great walking paths and area to enjoy the river.
- The greenbelt is getting better and better.
- The falls are a wonderful tourist attraction.

City Parks



Comments about City Parks are a major trend throughout the data. The Zoo and Tautphaus Park were often mentioned together and individual parks were identified by name by many people.

- Gorgeous parks.
- The abundance of beautiful and well kept parks.
- Well maintained parks and recreation areas.
- Large city parks.

Community Character

Many comments are very positive describing people, community atmosphere, cleanliness of the city, regional location and landscaping/flowers. These comments have been grouped together into a category called Community Character.

- The people and their spirit of giving.
- Overall friendliness of the people.
- Small town appeal with conveniences still available to larger communities.

- It is clean and there is a community feel to this city.
- Great locale - mountains, desert, valleys.
- Location to Jackson, West Yellowstone, vacation spots.
- Well kept grounds, trees, flowers.

Downtown



Downtown was also selected by significant number of people as a best feature of the city. Downtown attractions such as arts and culture and the Farmers Market are included in this category.

- Downtown has huge potential.
- Clean, healthy downtown area.
- Pedestrian friendly downtown area.
- The redevelopment of the downtown area with better business options.
- Cultural district in downtown.
- Farmers Market.

Other Best Features

There is a fair amount of comment on public services: low cost, good fire and police departments, sewer, water and sanitation service, the airport and the library were cited. There is a scattering of comments that weave through the best features data about shopping opportunities, redevelopment, particularly Taylor's Crossing and historic assets. Other features mentioned by several groups are low crime and medical services and historic assets.

WORST FEATURES

People identified traffic and city streets as the worst feature of the City of Idaho Falls. The amount of comments on this topic far outnumbered all other comments. Two additional "worst features" are mentioned by a representative number of people: downtown and deteriorating areas, locations in the city with run down appearance, vacant buildings, trash and weeds. Other areas mentioned are entrances to the city, lack of activities for youth and young adults, public services, bike paths and high taxes

Traffic/City Streets



The most dominant trend in all the data is the number of negative comments about the city's street system. People have strong opinions about traffic flow and congestion, design, safety and maintenance of city streets.

- Not able to get from end of town to the other in a timely manner.
- Synchronization of lights in congested areas.
- Roads aren't clearly marked nor are they properly maintained.
- Traffic tools not efficient for new and increased traffic.
- The city struggles with street maintenance.

As well as many general comments, a number of city streets were identified by name as being the worst feature. 17th Street is pinpointed more than any other topic in the street data set. "17th street. Avoid at all costs.", "17th street is the worst road in town." and "17th Street gridlock" are example comments. Other streets mentioned frequently by name are: Hitt Road, Holmes, Yellowstone Highway, Pancheri, Sunnyside Road, West Broadway and Woodruff.

Deteriorating Areas



A group of comments about vacant buildings, run down appearance and trash are organized into this topic called deteriorating areas. This category illustrates the value people put on the over all character of the community. People want a clean, well kept city.

- It's a shame that there are sections of town that are on the verge of urban blight and vacancies such as Old Ernst and Fred Meyer at the expense of saturation on 17th.
- Empty box stores. Get old filled up before building more.
- Industrial area by river.
- Some of the older neighborhoods are deteriorating rapidly and becoming problem areas.
- Old buildings, trash is visible, lack of public pride.
- Vacant lots with weeds.

Downtown



Downtown is the only topic that a considerable number of people identified as both a best and worst feature of the city.

- Beautiful downtown core that is not receiving the attention it deserves to grow and prosper.
- Our downtown needs a major renovation.
- Downtown area looks old, run down, dirty.
- Our downtown needs help, parking is terrible.

Other Worst Features

A few comments on entrances to the city are found in a majority of the data sets: "We need inviting entrances to the City and All freeway entrances into Idaho Falls are not as attractive as they need to be." and "They do not make people want to get off the interstate" summarize these comments. A small number of people also made statements about housing, commercial development, public services, bike paths and public transportation as worst features. Lack of a convention center, a recreation center and not enough activities for youth and young adults are touched on as are high taxes and historic areas but not in large numbers.

VISITORS VIEWPOINTS

The opinions of elected officials, planning commissioners and planning staff from eastern Idaho who attended the Joy of Subdivision offer an outside viewpoint of the best and worst features of the City. This information is certainly not a representative sample of visitors to the City, but rather a snapshot view. In addition, some of the attendees were City residents.

Best: Comments about the best features of the city are summed up most effectively by the person who wrote "IF has some great parks, services and shopping." People liked the variety of shopping opportunities, restaurants and the theater, concerts and plays. The Snake River Greenbelt was also very

popular with this group and there is some mention of downtown, medical services, the Temple, the library and city parks and the zoo as best features.

Worst: Visitors see traffic as the worst feature of the city. 17th Street is mentioned repeatedly and congestion around shopping areas and cross town access is also seen as problems. A small number of comments addressed downtown, "Downtown area seems abandoned.", and entrances to the city, "City has poor visual image from interstate." as worst features.

CONCERNS ABOUT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY

The majority of comments pertaining to concerns about the future development of the city are organized into the topic titled growth. They deal with: location, size, type, infrastructure, public services and, to a lesser extent, intergovernmental relations. It is challenging to summarize these comments. For example, "sprawl" conveys a general concept while, "We need growth beyond 17th Street," is much more specific. A small scattering of comments about growth disagree with majority opinions, but are not prominent enough to demonstrate a real division of community thought. Again, traffic is also a key concern and downtown has a representative number of comments.

Growth

Location, where should development go?

Most of the comments on location were general rather than site specific. People feel sprawl is real issue, but it is not fair to assume all participants are familiar with the location of the city limits; therefore, sprawl could mean the greater City of Idaho Falls area. People would like to see more development on the west side of the City and in downtown.

- Continuing sprawl.
- Sprawl - build a healthy core of the city and the rest will flow outward.
- Growth needs to occur throughout the city, not just on the east side.

- Too much on east side, more growth should be on west side and on North Yellowstone Highway.

Quantity, how much development?

Caution must be used in interpretation of data on the amount of development. Do people feel the City itself will become too large or is it more a perception of the growth of the greater Idaho Falls area including the City of Ammon and ongoing development in Bonneville County that drives these comments?

- Overcrowding.
- I'd like to have it all stop now.
- I am concerned that new growth overshadows the rehabilitation of our unique areas around town.
- Loss of small town atmosphere.

Type of development?

There were no trends in the data concerning type of land uses. Some, but not many, people chose to be specific about commercial and residential development. More than anything, big box retail is mentioned as both a worst feature and a concern. A small number of comments address residential development, but there are not enough to define any trends.

- Too many big box retail.
- Lack of support for local businesses vs. national chains.
- Commercial development will look attractive.
- Create neighborhoods rather than strips of traffic and super centers.
Neighborhoods with grocery stores, pharmacies, parks and sidewalks.
- Over building of multi family housing.

Adequate infrastructure and public services?

On the whole, people are not much concerned with development issues associated with infrastructure and public services.

- City of Idaho Falls and county are growing faster than the planning of infrastructure based on growth.
- That infrastructure issues are considered as rapid growth comes to this area.
- Lots of development without adequate parks, recreation, parking.

Intergovernmental relations regarding growth issues

Not very many people commented on this topic and the theme is cooperation and working together. The predominant interest in intergovernmental relations is from the community groups.

- We need more cooperation between the City of I.F., City of Ammon and Bonneville County.
- Team work with surrounding areas equals planning for growth.

Traffic/City Streets

Again this topic is addressed by many people which reinforce the fact that traffic is a real concern for the future as well as in the present.

- It's going to become a traffic nightmare.
 - That there is not enough consideration given to traffic flow and access.
- This goes for all of the city not just retail and subdivisions.

Downtown

Downtown appears to be a focus of many people who participated in the Community Viewpoint activities. Comments in this section support opinions about the best and worst features of the city.

- Downtown needs to be healthy and vibrant and strong in order for the city as a whole to grow successfully outward.
- Please continue to work on the downtown area. It is good and getting better.
- Creating a future master plan for our downtown.

- Invest in the infrastructure of downtown.

POLICY LINKAGES

The viewpoints of the citizens, when considered as a whole, reflect a general community consensus about the best and worst features of the City of Idaho Falls and an uneasiness about change. Some of the information is not policy oriented and can serve as a background to policy related discussions, some provides clear implications for policies in the current Comprehensive Plan and some can be used to address the next step in the citizen participation program, community priorities.

People really like the City of Idaho Falls. Much of the best features data speaks to the character of the community: it is a clean, well landscaped city with friendly people and a small community atmosphere in a great regional location. The Snake River and greenbelt and City Parks are seen as real community assets. Downtown is important and people feel there must be revitalization efforts to keep the area viable.

People really don't like the city street system: traffic congestion, safety and street maintenance. The overwhelming majority of comments about the worst features are all associated with city streets. People also see deteriorating areas with a vacant buildings and unkempt lots as a real problem.

People want to avoid the negative aspects of future development such as unplanned sprawl. They want to see planning for traffic flow and access and adequate infrastructure to support growth. They don't want Idaho Falls to grow too big. People would like attractive commercial areas and worry about too many box stores.

Policies for Special Areas

Tree Idaho Falls

People love the City's trees.

Entryways

People believe city entrances are unattractive approaches to the community.

The Snake River Greenbelt

People see the Snake River Greenbelt as the focal point of the city. There are some interesting comments concerning development and preservation of both the Snake River and greenbelt which support current policy.

Historic Resources

Not many people chose to comment on this policy. Of those that did, historic assets related to downtown and neighborhoods were mentioned.

Downtown

Downtown was a topic on many people's minds. People feel it is important for the city to have a viable downtown and there is a real fear that downtown will be lost if something isn't done soon. People said current revitalization efforts are positive and they really like the arts and cultural opportunities offered downtown. There is a strong perception that improvements in downtown parking are a key factor in downtown revitalization.

Transition areas

There is minimal comment on redevelopment of existing neighborhoods.

Policies for Growth and Development

Growth in the future

More information is needed before drawing too many conclusions about how much future development there should be and where it should go. People are concerned about sprawl and getting “too big.”, but exactly why is not evident. It can be inferred that there is a desire for more balance with attention given to development on the west side of the city. Redevelopment efforts occurring in the city are seen as positive and there is interest in more redevelopment rather than just expansion.

Residential Development, Where We Live

There is minimal comment on residential land uses.

Commercial Development, Where We Shop

People think Idaho Falls has good shopping opportunities. They also like the choice of restaurants but want to see even more variety. It is also important to people to have better access to commercial areas and that they look attractive.

Employment Areas, Where We Work

There was minimal comment on office and industrial land uses. Only medical facilities received enough comment to indicate they serve an important employment function in the city.

Recreational Development, Where We Play

The park and recreation system is one of the best features of the city. People think City parks are excellent and, in some cases, feel more are needed. The zoo and city golf courses are also very popular features. A few people stated the need for a new recreation center and there were scattered comments about

recreation programs. Mention was also made of more entrainment opportunities for youth and young adults.

Transportation

A strong majority of people participating in the Community Viewpoint activities believe the city has serious traffic problems, but it should be determined if these problems are real. One of the consequence of continuing growth is change and people often find it difficult to consider why, for example, it takes 5 or 10 minutes longer to get to work or the shopping center the it did in the past. Are there real problems with city streets, and if so, do current land use planning policies assure adequate streets to accommodate future development? Issues in the data associated with land use policy must be addressed by the Planning Commission and problems of street operation and maintenance by the city's Public Works Division.

Other topics related to transportation were comment about bike paths, pedestrian safety, public transportation and the airport. Comments on these topics were not numerous, but should be considered. People said they liked the bike paths and wanted more, sidewalks are suggested and people really appreciate the improvements at the airport.

PART II: COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Community Priorities is the second part of the citizen participation program conducted to provide information to the City of Idaho Falls Planning Commission for the current update of the comprehensive plan. Community Priorities is designed to build upon data collected in part one of the citizen participation program, Community Viewpoints. The two key advantages of this approach are: the Planning Commission learns in more detail about community priorities and it offers citizens an opportunity to observe if decision makers listened to the opinions they gave in part one of the program. The City of Idaho Falls has a history of a high degree of direct participation by the general public at listening posts and this method was selected for the Community Priorities events.

LISTENING POSTS

Approximate # of participants: 451

Objectives

- Offer the community a way to express their priorities for the future development of the City of Idaho Falls.
- Provide information for the Planning Commission to use in their work on the update of the city's comprehensive plan.
- Demonstrate the Planning Commission's willingness to learn from citizens.

What

Listening posts were held at 4 locations throughout the city from July 16, 2005 through July 23, 2005. Each listening post featured an interactive display with three activities: a kiosk, a Community Priorities handout and a children's mural. The four sided kiosk had a concept map presenting general ideas and a picture of what can be achieved for the future of the city on 1 side. On the other 3 sides were 15 statements describing potential actions. The Community Priorities

handout had directions for the kiosk activity and space for opinions about the Concept Map on the front side. On the reverse side was a checklist with 15 potential projects for the future development of the city and a space for additional comments.



Selecting Priorities

Location, Dates, Time & # of Participants

Location	Date	Time	# of Participants
City of Idaho Falls Zoo at Tautphaus Park	Saturday, July 16 th	11 am – 3 pm	74
City of Idaho Falls Public Library	Tuesday, July 19 th	10 am – 4 pm	80
	Wednesday, July 20 th	6 pm – 9 pm	27
	Thursday, July 21 st	10 am – 4 pm	77
Farmer's Market	Saturday, July 23 rd	9 am – 11:30 am	66
Eagle Rock Art Guild 51 st Annual Sidewalk Sale	Saturday, July 23 rd	12 noon – 4 pm	127

A large butcher paper mural with a curving road and the question “What do you want your town to look like?” was available for children to draw their ideas for the future at the zoo and library.



What Kids Want for the Future

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

This summary of the results of the Community Priorities activities applies the same framework as Community Viewpoints: direct comments from the citizen data to illustrate their priorities and the Policy Statements of the City of Idaho Falls Comprehensive Plan, September 2000. The results are organized with priorities selected from the ideas presented on the kiosk first. Next is the summary of the comments on the land use concept map. This is followed by a discussion of priorities from the project checklist, additional comments and a discussion of policy linkages.

Results from the kiosk and projects checklist are numerical; therefore, quantitative analysis is appropriate. Participants were asked to select 10 of 15 items on the kiosk and 5 of 15 projects on the handout. Choices are compiled and ranked most choices to least to indicate priorities. It is important to note some participants did not use all their choices or used more than one choice on an item on the kiosk so total numbers will not represent total number of participants. The qualitative methods, content and trend analysis, described in the Community Viewpoints section are used for the two open ended questions about the concept map and additional comments.

KIOSK ACTIVITY

The listening posts featured 15 potential action items on 3 sides, 5 on each side. Participants were given a Community Priorities handout with 10 small post-its each depicting \$10 bills. The directions asked people to walk around the kiosk, look at all 15 ideas and decide how to spend their \$100 by placing their post-its on the kiosk. There was the option to select 10 different actions, put all the \$10 post-its on one action or any other combination, for example, \$20 on one action, \$10 on another and the remaining \$70 on individual actions. Not everyone chose to use all 10 choices; therefore, the number of items selected will not

correspond to the number of people who completed this activity. 451 people participated in this activity.

Kiosk Statements All Participants by Priority and Total # of \$ Choices

Checklist Priorities	Kiosk Statement by Priority	Total \$ Choices
1. Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17 th Street, for example, turning lanes and traffic lights synchronization.	1	447
2. Develop bike and walking paths to link homes, schools, parks and offices and stores.	2	338
3. Fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings and encourage new businesses and housing in downtown	3	337
4. Beautify downtown and its entrances.	4	285
5. Fund programs to clean and spruce up older residential neighborhoods, for example, spring clean—up programs, housing rehabilitation and graffiti removal.	5	269
6. Maintain quality public services such as water, sewer, garbage collection and electric power.	6	260
7. Develop vacant buildings and deteriorated commercial areas.	7	259
8. Build new parks to serve areas of the city where new homes are being built.	8	256
9. Increase funding for city street maintenance.	9	235
10. Keep parks and recreational areas well maintained.	10	232
11. Redevelop older industrial areas adjacent to the Snake River.	11	228
12. Extend the Snake River Greenbelt from the upper power plant to Gem Lake at York Road.	12	202
13. Construct major roads at the same time or before construction of new homes.	13	187
14. Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls.	14	162
15. Plant trees and flowers at entrance ways and prohibit open storage on entrance ways.	15	153

The top 2 priorities address transportation and the next 2 focus on downtown Idaho Falls. "Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17th Street, for example, turning lanes and traffic light synchronization" is the by far the first priority of citizens. This action has 100 more post-it choices than the 2nd priority "Develop bike and walking paths to link homes, schools, parks, and offices and stores." Item 3 "Fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings and encourage new businesses and housing in down town" has only one less post-it choice than the second priority which shows strong support among participants for both bike and walking paths. "Beautify downtown and its entrances" is the 4th citizen priority reinforcing support for downtown revitalization.

The next 4 priorities: number 5, 6, 7, and 8 are separated by only 13 choices. Two speak to citizen concerns about community character and redevelopment. The other two addresses city services and new parks. The next 2 priorities, 9 and 10, are related to citizen's interest in maintaining or redeveloping existing facilities and land uses. The choice of 11 and 12 as low priorities is interesting. Although the Snake River and the Greenbelt are considered two of the very best features of The City of Idaho Falls, "Redevelop older industrial areas adjacent to the Snake River" and "Extend the Snake River Greenbelt from the upper power plant to Gem Lake at York Road" are low priorities.

The final 3 priorities: "Construct major roads at the same time or before construction of new homes", "Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls" and "Plant trees and flowers at entrance ways and prohibit open storage on entrance ways" are not high priorities. Each address a topics of concern identified in the Community Viewpoint activities, but may not represent actions citizens feel as important as earlier choices at the present time.

Kiosk Statements as Appear on the Kiosk by Location and Priority

Checklist Priorities	Zoo	Library	Farmers Market	Art Show
1. Build new parks to serve areas of the city where new homes are being built.	1	7	12	15
2. Increase funding for city street maintenance.	13	5	14	7
3. Beautify downtown and its entrances.	5	9	3	3
4. Maintain quality public services such as water, sewer, garbage collection and electric power.	12	3	11	4
5. Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls.	15	14	8	13
6. Extend the Snake River Greenbelt from the upper power plant to Gem Lake at York Road.	6	12	15	10
7. Construct major roads at the same time or before construction of new homes.	14	10	10	12
8. Fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings and encourage new businesses and housing in downtown.	4	8	1	2
9. Develop bike and walking paths to link homes, schools, parks and offices and stores.	3	2	7	8
10. Redevelop older industrial areas adjacent to the Snake River.	10	13	5	5
11. Fund programs to clean and spruce up older residential neighborhoods, for example, spring clean-up programs, housing rehabilitation, and graffiti removal.	9	6	2	11
12. Develop vacant building and deteriorated commercial areas.	7	4	4	9
13. Keep parks and recreational areas well maintained.	8	11	9	6
14. Plant trees and flowers at entrance ways and prohibit open storage on entrance ways.	11	15	14	14
15. Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17 th Street, for example, turning lanes and traffic light synchronization.	2	1	6	1

A consensus for action is evident in the top priorities at the various locations, but no apparent agreement about the least important priorities. "Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17th Street, for example, turning lanes and traffic light synchronization" is the 1st or 2nd priority at 3 of the 4 locations which demonstrates this truly is an action citizens feel is necessary.

The 1st choice at the other two locations "Build new parks to serve areas of the city where new homes are being built" and "Fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings and encourage new businesses and housing in downtown" illustrate the importance of parks and downtown to citizens. Interest in downtown is further emphasized by the choice of "Fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings and encourage new businesses and housing in downtown" as the 2nd priority at the Eagle Rock Art Guild 51st Annual Sidewalk Sale and the 4th priority at the Zoo.

Clearly preferences differ among locations with each demonstrating an individual emphasis. People at the zoo are most interested in new parks to serve areas with new homes, improvements on 17th Street, and bike and walking paths. Library participants want to see improvements on 17th Street, bike and walking paths, and well maintained public services. At the Farmers Market the most interest is shown in downtown rehabilitation and programs to clean and spruce up older neighborhoods. Participants at the Eagle Rock Art Guild Sidewalk Sale top priorities are improvement to 17th Street and rehabilitation of downtown.

There is also little agreement on the lower priorities at the various locations. Only 2 actions show the least support: "Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls" and "Plant trees and flowers at entrance ways and prohibit open storage on entrance ways."

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES HANDOUT

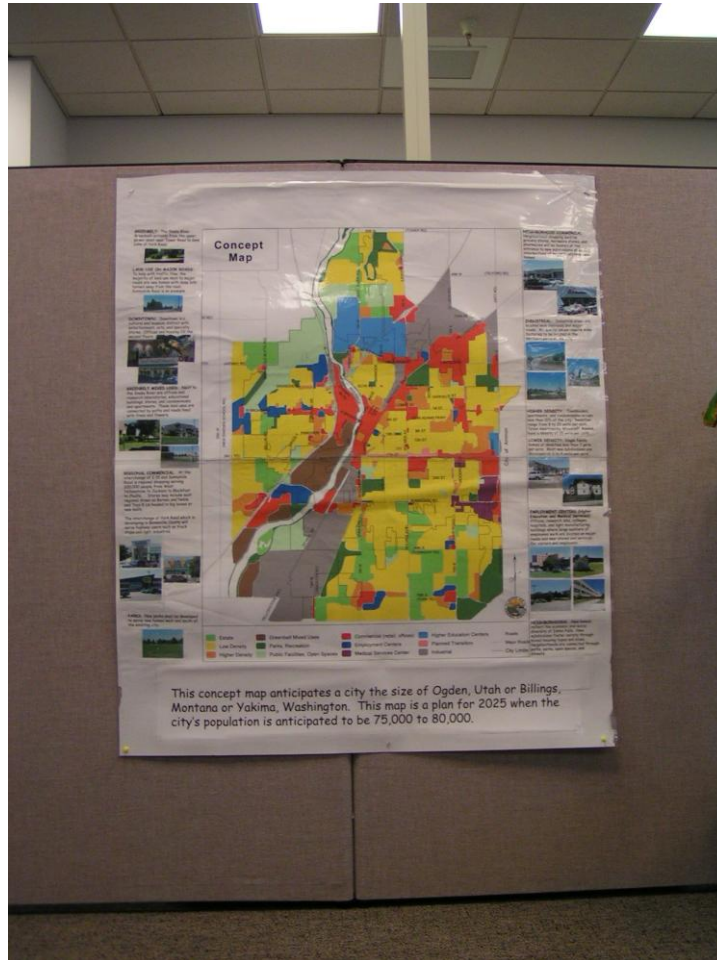
The Community Priorities Handout, in addition to the directions for completing the kiosk activity, includes 3 sections for written answers. There are 2 questions about the Concept Map on the kiosk: "What do you see as the most positive features on the map?" and "Is there anything on this map you would not like to see?" On the reverse side of the handout is a list of 15 projects asking participants to identify the 5 they feel are most important for the future development of the city and a section for additional comments. 90% of the people participating in the Community Priorities events completed, at least, some part of this handout.

CONCEPT MAP

The Concept Map presents general ideas and a picture of a possible land use design for the future. The map is based on an anticipated population of 75,000 to 80,000 in the year 2025. Surrounding the map is illustrated text with the following topics: Greenbelt, Land Use on Major Roads, Downtown, Greenbelt and Mixed Uses, Regional Commercial, Parks, Neighborhoods, Industrial, Higher Density, Lower Density, Employment Centers: Higher Education and Medical Services, and Neighborhoods.

Over all there is a very positive response to the Concept Map. 80% of the people answered the first question on the handout, "What do you see as the most positive features on the map?" while less than 50% people answered the second question, "Is there anything on this map you would not like to see in the future?" In addition, 12% of the answers to the 2nd question are simply "no" or comments such as "No, I like them all" and "No, everything looks very positive".

Concept Map



What do you see as the most positive features on the map?

There are no significant trends in the comments about the positive features on the map. Many people just wrote one or two words without additional comment, for example, Greenbelt, parks or low density to indicate positive features. Most of the comments address the Snake River and Greenbelt, downtown, or types of land uses. There are some comments on growth and transportation issues received some attention, but not nearly as much as the other topics. A number of miscellaneous general comments stress community character, make favorable statements about the planning effort or the map itself.

Snake River and Greenbelt

Comments focus on the importance of the river and greenbelt. There is some comment supporting extending the greenbelt and mixed uses, but not in any marked degree.

- Wonderful use of the river as a strong feature of the city.
- The greenbelt mixed use corridor.
- Love extending the Greenbelt - it's a major plus when tourists come to town.

Downtown

Downtown is also one of the most popular features selected by citizens.

- Fixing up the downtown area. If we respect it - so will others.
- I like the idea of a downtown cultural and museum district.
- High density in density in downtown - I'd like to see more housing.

A few comments speak to facilities and programs such as:

- Underground or hi-rise parking downtown.
- The funding of programs for the rehabilitation of old and historic building downtown.

Location, Quantity and Density of Growth

There are no discernible trends and minimal comment on location of land uses as a whole. Comments focus on balance such as:

- City movement in all directions, developing all areas with balanced mixes of park, resident and business.
- Separation of land use and control of sprawl.

A scattering of comments, for example:

- "Co-mingling retail, commercial, employment into living areas" describe mixed uses as positive feature.

Quite a few comments speak to density with most favoring low density. There is almost no comment on the amount of growth.

- Lots of low density areas.
- Still lots of low density.
- I like there is a choice between high density and low density areas.

Residential

Low density housing is selected as a positive feature throughout the data. Quite a few people also simply wrote neighborhood. Some mention of linking residential areas to neighborhood shopping is found.

- There is a lot of low density housing.
- Lots of low density home sites.
- Keeping most of IF low density housing.

Commercial

More comments describe positive aspects of commercial land use as illustrated on the Concept Map than any other particular type of land use. Both regional and commercial are mentioned, but most comments are more descriptive.

- Having commercial development near major highways.
- Development of regional commercial areas at major interchanges
DISTANT from 17th and Hitt.

Employment Areas:

Higher Education and Medical Centers

These two features are mentioned fairly often, usually just as Higher Education Center or Medical Center.

- Room for higher ed - we need to make this a priority.
- Concentration and expansion of medical facilities.

Industrial

Most comments regarding industrial land use speak to location or redevelopment of older industrial uses.

- Most of the industrial is located away from residential.
- It looks like industrial areas are kept in spots where it should be.
- Redevelop older industrial areas.

Parks and Recreation

Parks are named as a positive feature in over a half of the comments, often only by the word “parks.” Comments vary with quite a few about new parks while others are more general.

- New parks coming to grow with the community.
- That parks, paths, and open spaces are considered part of new housing development.
- Parks and recreation throughout attaching neighborhoods and beautifying Idaho Falls.

Transportation

Transportation was not given a great deal of attention. Most comments speak to bike and walking paths as a positive feature or city streets. A few identify the beltway as a positive feature and there are some general comments which include:

- Land uses on major roads.
- Bike paths to link homes and businesses.
- Major road development at same time as new construction.

Miscellaneous

There is a fair amount comment which is difficult to categorize. Most are very general comments, of which many speak to appreciation of the planning effort, citizen participation and the Concept Map itself.

- The most positive thing I see is you are thinking ahead rather than just catching up.
- Just the idea of you asking for citizen input and that I. F. is actually thinking about the future, wow!
- 1) The fact that you've produced it in the first place. 2) The terminology used in community planning is defined and illustrated. 3) Color coding help with visualization of concepts.
- Good work. Thank you from a 47 year resident.

CHECKLIST

On the back side of the Community Priorities Handout there is a list of 15 potential projects. People were asked to check the 5 items they feel are very important for the future development of the City of Idaho Falls. 86% of people participating filled out, at least, a portion of the Project Checklist. Not everyone chose to check 5 items; therefore, the numbers of items selected will not correspond to the number of people who completed this activity.

Overall Priorities

Citizen's choices at all the locations were combined to identify overall citizen's priorities for future actions. It is essential to note many items are separated by a very few number. This makes it difficult to say with confidence the choices show a representative continuum of most to least priority. For example, there is a difference of only 7 between the top 3 items which make is problematic to suggest Project 1 is more important than Project 2 or 3. Projects 4 and 5 are also just separated by 7 choices.

Checklist Statements All Participants by Priority and Total # of Choices

Checklist Priorities	Statements by Priority	Total \$ Choices
Offer financial incentives to rehabilitate older buildings downtown.	1	148
Improve Pancheri Drive, including the I-15 overpass.	2	143
Expand Tautphaus Park Zoo.	3	141
Improve the intersection of 17 th Street and Woodruff Avenue.	4	138
Improve the intersection of 17 th Street and Hitt Road.	5	131
Increase funding for public transportation within the city.	6	119
Encourage the opening of more specialty stores downtown.	7	116
Fund construction and maintenance of neighborhood parks.	8	114
Improve intersection of 17 th Street and Holmes Avenue.	9	106
Expand Idaho Falls Library through bookmobiles and branch libraries.	10	100
Construct a new road west of Bellin Road to link West Broadway to new Sunnyside I-19 Interchange.	11	99
Link downtown to Snake River Greenbelt.	12	95
Hire a full time transportation engineer.	13	75
Strengthen arts district in downtown.	14	72
Reconstruct median in Memorial Drive and plant trees and flowers in medians on Memorial Drive and Yellowstone Highway.	15	68

3 of the top 5 choices are street projects which conveys, as a whole, that streets are the top priority. The 1st priority "Offer financial incentives to rehabilitate older building downtown" fits with other data in this report identifying downtown as an important priority for citizens. Priority 3, "Expand Tauphaus Park Zoo", may reflect the strong support for parks also found throughout citizen data;

however, it should be taken into consideration one of the Community Priority events was held at the Tauphaus Park Zoo.

The 6th priority "Increase funding for public transportation within the city" is interesting in that public transportation is seldom mentioned in any of the other data sets. The choice does support the extensive attention to a variety of transportation issues by citizens.

The 7th priority, is separated by only 3 choices from the 6th reinforcing the importance of downtown to the community. Priority 8, is also separated by only 3 choices, and not surprisingly is "Fund construction and maintenance of neighborhood parks."

Priority 9, 10, 11 and 12 each were selected by about 25% of the people participating and the last 3 priorities received just less than 20% of the citizens.

Priorities by Location

No definitive consensus on top priorities is readily apparent among the various locations. Three of the four locations have "Offer financial incentives to rehabilitate older buildings downtown" as one of their top 3 choices reflecting the interest in downtown once again. 4 other projects appear 2 times in the top 3 at all locations: "Expand Tauphaus Park Zoo", "Improve Pancheri Drive, including the I-15 overpass", "Improve the intersection of 17th and Woodruff Avenue" and "Improve the intersection of 17th Street and Hitt Road." 3 locations also pick "Increase funding for public transportation" as a top 5 choice. Taken together, transportation projects can be considered the highest priority at all locations.

There is very little similarity in the next 7 priorities. Considerable agreement is found on the choice of the lowest 3 priorities. "Hire a full time transportation engineer" and "Strengthen arts district downtown" both appear 3 times as low

priorities. "Reconstruct median in Memorial Drive and plant trees and flowers in medians on Memorial Drive and Yellowstone Highway" are the lowest 3 choices from the list.

Checklists Item by Location and Priority

Checklist Priorities	Zoo	Library	Farmers Market	Art Show
1. Reconstruct median in Memorial Drive and plant trees and flowers in medians on Memorial Drive and Yellowstone Highway.	3	8	5	13
2. Hire a full time transportation engineer.	13	3	7	5
3. Expand Tauphaus Park Zoo.	15	15	13	8
4. Construct a new road west of Bellin Road to link West Broadway to new Sunnyside I-19 Interchange.	10	5	8	6
5. Improve Panchari Drive, including the I-15 overpass.	14	9	9	9
6. Link downtown to Snake River Greenbelt.	8	14	15	3
7. Encourage the opening of more specialty stores downtown.	4	12	4	7
8. Improve the intersection of 17 th Street and Woodruff Avenue.	5	13	12	2
9. Increase funding for public transportation within the city.	6	10	1	15
10. Expand Idaho Falls Library through bookmobiles and branch libraries.	12	7	6	11
11. Strengthen arts district in downtown.	7	4	3	14
12. Improve intersection of 17 th Street and Holmes Avenue.	9	6	14	1
13. Offer financial incentives to rehabilitate older buildings downtown.	2	2	11	4
14. Fund construction and maintenance of neighborhood parks.	1	11	2	12
15. Improve the intersection of 17 th Street and Hitt Road.	11	1	10	10

Clearly preferences differ among locations, but not to a significant degree. Transportation projects are a high priority at all locations as is the Tauphaus Park Zoo. People at the Zoo selected the library and parks as high priorities as did those at the library. Downtown items were of more interest to participants at the Farmer's Market and Eagle Rock Art Guild 51st Sidewalk Sale.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Less than 40% of the people chose to make additional comments in the space at the end of the handout. No trends stand out as most comments reinforce earlier opinions or offer advice.

Snake River and Greenbelt

The limited number of comments on the Greenbelt send a mixed message; more improvement versus how much is enough.

- Improving the Greenbelt along the Snake River is extremely important!
- Very important to repair/maintain Veterans Memorial on Greenbelt.
- How much greenbelt is really needed?

Downtown

The handful of comments about downtown relate to revitalization, character of the area and parking.

- Downtown is the heart of IF. City should focus resources to revitalize.
- Would like to see downtown rejuvenated more specialty shops and old commercial building redone!
- Save historic buildings.
- Provide free, convenient parking downtown.

Location, Quantity and Density of Growth

Very few people have comments on growth.

- I would really like less growth, the smaller the better.

- We need to keep our farms and farm land.
- Idaho Falls doesn't need to turn into a big city and trouble.

Residential, Commercial and Employment Areas

Little comment speaks to residential, commercial and industrial land use.

- I would like to see older homes and buildings in Idaho Falls become nice again and preserved as much as possible.
- Retail development should proceed in a very careful manner to keep the city from getting 'boxed in' with ugly, monolithic Big Box Chain store.

Parks

There are no themes among the scattered number of diverse comments concerning parks.

- More parks on west and north parts of town.
- I would like to see more parks with huge trees and beautiful flowers.
- I don't think this city needs to have pretty parks with flowers and a play ground for every sub-division.

Transportation

The greatest number of comments are about transportation, mostly directed toward traffic congestion and 17th Street. Others speak to bike and walking opportunities or make general observations.

- I feel 17th needs help now to keep the development in town growing.
- Bike lanes etc. are not recreational since gas prices are so high - a good alternative between town and its residential areas.
- Judging from how traffic - roads become in larger cities, I do think this is a priority for our growing city.

Miscellaneous

The remainder of the comments are quite dissimilar, but generally positive. People express their appreciation for their city, the planning effort and opportunity to participate.

- Idaho Falls is very beautiful! There's not really anything that I would like to see replaced.
- Fun ideas! All are great.
- Great project to get citizen input.
- Thanks! We appreciate your planning efforts!

POLICY LINKAGES

It is a challenge to address the information from the Community Priorities activities as it must be considered in a broader context than a simple order of importance. Activities that ask for a priority ranking lead to conclusions about what people would like to see happen in order of preference; however, this does not necessarily mean the items of least importance in the ranking are of no interest. Answers to open ended questions will lead to implicit determinations rather than providing an explicit set of priorities. Examined as a whole, the information does produce a useful picture of citizen priorities for the future of the city.

People are, by and large, satisfied with the current approach to comprehensive planning. Over 90% of the citizens completed at least one of the items on the Community Priorities Handout with positive comments far outweighing negative response to open end question. Over 80% of the people found positive features on the Concept Map and less than 40% identified things they would not like to see in the future. Most of the additional comments were also positive and many people expressed their appreciation of planning efforts.

The Planning Commission is confronted with a dilemma. Many of the ideas found in the data address things outside the purview of the comprehensive planning process yet also have long term planning implications. The following two examples illustrate this difficulty. Funding projects to reduce congestion on 17th Street is the top priority for citizens. Is current planning policy contributing to this congestion or is it exclusively a traffic engineering problem? Revitalization of downtown is also a top priority and, in this case, the question is how much of a revitalization effort can be promoted by comprehensive planning policies and how much is dependent on decisions by the City Council and the private sector?

Policies for Special Areas

Tree Idaho Falls

Trees are mentioned only a few times.

Entryways

Entryways are seldom named and the lowest priority from the kiosk activity.

The Snake River Greenbelt

There is no doubt, the Snake River and Greenbelt are extremely important to the community; however, it should be noted, items directed toward the Greenbelt are in the bottom third in both the kiosk and checklist rankings. The most specific comments on the greenbelt, fairly evenly divided between support and disagreement, are directed to extending the greenbelt and mixed uses. Some people did indicate enough attention has been given to the Greenbelt.

Historic Resources

Few comments address historic resources.

Downtown

Revitalization of downtown is a top priority for citizens, expressed both in the priority rankings and answers in open ended questions. Rehabilitation of older buildings is the 1st priority for projects from the checklist activity and the third highest priority from the kiosk activity. Numerous comments speak to downtown as a positive feature or offer ideas for improvement. Better parking is an issue cited several times.

Transition areas

There is minimal comment on redevelopment of existing neighborhoods.

Growth and Development

No predominant trends concerning growth and development are evident, in part due to the fact that many people simple chose to use one or two words rather then make descriptive comments on this topic. People generally want to see balance of growth between east and west and are concerned about the amount and location of high density. There is support for redevelopment of existing areas and some interest in mixed uses. A few comments speak to the desire for a small city and the preservation of farm land, which is a regional issue.

Residential Development, Where We Live

Not many people address neighborhoods or housing. The most interest is in maintaining low density housing and neighborhoods, but there are comments supporting some high density.

Commercial Development, Where We Shop

There is a lot of interest in commercial development, but again many general comments difficult to categorize. People support commercial development along major roads and redevelopment of vacant commercial areas. Opinions on regional and neighborhood commercial are divided between people who like

these features and those that don't want to see them. There are no other trends of note.

Employment Areas, Where We Work

Higher Education and Medical Centers

Each of these centers has some support in the data, but none are priorities.

Industrial

Industrial land use receives a fair amount of attention. The location of current industrial land use seems to be generally supported. People are concerned about industrial development along the Snake River and want to see redevelopment of older industrial areas.

Recreational Development, Where We Play

Parks are high priority for citizens. People want existing parks maintained and new parks to accommodate growth.

Transportation

This is the number one priority for citizens who appear, as a whole to be very dissatisfied with the existing transportation system. The most interest in all the data is directed to what people don't like about transportation in the City of Idaho Falls. Top priorities are transportation items and there are numerous comments about what people don't like or want to see changed. People want something done about 17th Street. They support bike and walking paths and reduction of traffic congestion. There are also numerous suggestions for improvements, some identifying an individual street and others quite broad encompassing everything from public transportation to sidewalks.

Part III: Verbatim Citizen Comments

BOARD OF WOMEN REALTORS MARCH 7, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Greenbelt. Summer flowers and plantings. Tautphaus Park zoo.
- Greenbelt and falls. New cancer center and treatment options.
- Location to Jackson, West Yellowstone, vacation spots. Golf courses: proximity to outdoor activity. Population.
- Parks, Greenbelt, shopping.
- The parks, Greenbelt.
- Tautphaus Park. Restaurants. Barnes and Noble. Lowes.
- The comprehensive plan is good. Idaho Falls has great people. Planning zoning does a good job with storm drainage, planning, road planning, subdivision planning.
- Parks, greenbelt. Sandy Downs. Airport.
- Greenbelt. All the parks. Golf courses.
- I like the new growth on Utah Avenue by the new Wal-mart.
- The seasonal flower beds. Golf courses. Newer developments with nice, wide streets.
- Pinecrest golf course, River- Greenbelt, Taylor Crossing.
- Greenbelt area. Downtown area (could be). I think we have great parks.
- Love all the parks. Clean city. Civic interest: Willard Arts Center, museums.
- Shopping along 17th and Hitt. Greenbelt. Medical area growth. Parks and golf courses.
- The Greenbelt. Flowers at the parks and throughout the city. Parks.
- The falls. The temple. The museum.
- Golf courses. Greenbelt. Taylor's Crossing area.
- The golf courses. Airport. Museum. The snow removal has improved over the years.
- Operates on a balanced budget. Provides affordable golf courses. Has a wonderful zoo and lots of parks. Greenbelt.
- Streets, traffic.
- Golf courses run beautifully. Zoo is great. Mayor Milam and Ida Hardcastle do a fab job. Chamber does a good welcoming job to new businesses.
- Greenbelt and proposed greenbelt. Public golf courses.
- Greenbelt growing.
- Good power rates. Good property tax rates. Good city maintenance, i.e., streets, roads, sidewalks, etc.
- Greenbelt. Tautphaus Park area. The new area around Taylor's Crossing

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Industrial area by river but I know we are in the process of cleaning these areas up. 17th Street and Hitt Road. 17th Street in general.
- 17th Street. Avoid at all costs. Large empty boxes, i.e., old Fred Meyer shopping center, old Ernst, etc.
- Road layouts and stop light layouts.
- Traffic flow, need right hand turn lanes on 17th Street. Downtown area. Entrance to City– do not show well on Yellowstone.
- The traffic on 17th Street.
- Traffic. Changing traffic lights are not coordinated for smooth changing. Downtown area has very limited parking and narrow streets.
- The cost of taxes. 1% taxes and eliminate exemptions. All traffic lights should have a yield left turn when the light is green. Why is most of the major shopping going to Ammon? No water meters.
- Roads. Need for stop lights.
- Hitt and Sunnyside intersection (though I know that could be considered Ammon issue). 17th Street traffic (mostly by Woodruff).
- Do not like the Ammon side of the growth – traffic is awful to get there. Prefer easy access from freeway. Dislike 17th Street. Need to finish Sunnyside. Why is it taking so long?
- Some of the commercial development along the Snake River. Weeds that are allowed to grow on Channel 3 land. Congestion of 17th Street due to timing of stop lights.
- Christmas lights along the River need improvement. Hitt Road – Sunnyside. Hitt and 17th Street need improved.
- Congestion on 17th Street/mall areas– Target entrance, etc. Why don't we spread out further – why does everything need to be on one end of town? West side of IF seems neglected: more development should move more that direction. Area around old Fred Meyer building – all those abandoned buildings.
- All freeway entrances into Idaho Falls are not as attractive as they need to be. They do not make people want to get off the interstate. No up to date city recreation center or multi-use facility for use of city residents. Streets are built up so much that sidewalk corners are hazardous.
- Parking downtown. Traffic along 17th.
- Entrances to city of IF from freeways. Cleaning up area over by River and new Wal-Mart to not be industrial.
- Beer palace. Cattle field on Yellowstone Highway. Traffic down Sunnyside Road and 17th – all the way down.
- 17th Street and Hitt Road area. Road conditions.
- The interstate that goes through town does not reflect Idaho Falls. It needs to be cleaned up and beautified. Our downtown needs a major renovation. Parking is a huge deterrant from using the shops.

- Entrances into the city are unattractive. Builders say P&Z is very difficult to work with. Unpaved streets in subdivisions like Highland Park.
- Streets, traffic.
- No signage that there is shopping but will it be resolved with Sunnyside exchange? No public rights-of-way developed. Downtown too empty. Chamber has no money. Gem Lake could use some beautifying.
- Retail space congested (17th) – not designed for increase of population. Need a recreation center.
- Traffic is congested on busy roads.
- 17th Street/Hitt Road is a mess. Some areas are difficult to transition. Sunnyside Road sucks.
- View from the major highways. 17th Street congestion of traffic. Lack of parking in downtown.

WHERE'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE?

- Airport.
- My office space on Broadway.
- Gem Lake
- Tautphaus Park.
- Sage Lakes.
- Tautphaus Park.
- Pinecrest Golf Course.
- Tautphaus Park
- Downtown
- Pinecrest Golf Course
- Sandy Downs Golf Course
- Freeman Park
- Sandy Downs
- Greenbelt
- Mall
- Greenbelt
- Office
- Pinecrest Golf Course
- Greenbelt
- Greenbelt

GROW IDAHO FALLS ANNUAL MEETING

March 10, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Low crime rate. Schools. Quality of life in general.
- Growing/developing cultural arts community. Grow Idaho Falls and foresight to think about business attraction. Good K-12 program. Affordable city services.
- The development of green belt around river and Taylor Crossing are pluses (too bad nothing else is similar to Taylor's Crossing (see below)). Airport improvements are a plus, i.e., when you get off a plane your first thought is not to just get back on. Zoo and Tautphaus Park are pluses. The arts and its availability.
- Edwards developments. City golf, parks, soccer complex.
- Modern city with a generally positive progressive attitude.
- Clean. Updating numbered streets. Greenbelt area. Mall.
- River, greenbelt.
- The parks and recreation area and programs. The zoo and associated recreation areas. Softball and Little League sports.
- Friendly great community. Nice golf courses. Greenbelt. Over the years more variety of restaurants.
- Greenbelt. Tautphaus park/Zoo. Parks and green space.
- Riverwalk (former greenbelt). Golf courses. Zoo. The river for water sports.
- Riverwalk. New ball park. Tautphaus Park.
- Access to city officials. Open door policy. Parks and recreation activities, especially for kids. Golf courses, etc. Progressive ideas to develop community. Library.
- Greenbelt. Colonial Theatre. The soon to be Taylor Crossing development.
- Greenbelt and Taylor's Crossing. Health care. Access to Jackson, Island Park, fishing. Good golf and golf rates.
- Health care. Low crime rate. Airport. Quality education.
- Greenbelt/river. 17th Street/Ammon shopping.
- River and greenbelt.
- The river, distributed business districts, relatively open streets/highways. Regional location.
- The Snake River, greenbelt, and parks – a sense of community and a "clean" city.
- Greenbelt. Medical industry. Museums.
- Its parks. Its zoo. Its baseball stadium. Its airport. Its water. Low cost utilities.
- The greenbelt along the Temple walk. Friendly people, access to recreation. Clean environment. Low crime rate. High ethical/moral values. Ready access to hard working, honest people!

- Riverwalk and downtown area.
- River and greenbelt. Downtown.
- River walkway. The cultural and business history of downtown.
- Greenbelt. Taylor Crossing. Salvation Army organization.
- River greenbelt. City parks and zoo. Restaurants.
- City government. Greenbelt. Spirit of growth. Family focus and values.
- River, greenbelt.
- The Colonial Arts Center. The way the City is developing along the Snake River. The parks and zoo.
- We have some great things like Idaho Falls Arts Council and other public organizations that bring all kind of events to our town which provide great cultural educational opportunities. Also I appreciate that the town is not dominated by high-rise buildings and our town feels small even though we are growing.
- Public services - police department, fire department, sanitation services, etc. New cancer services and center. Greenbelt and flowers in summer.
- Shopping – regional shopping center. Restaurants. Close proximity to Yellowstone, Jackson Hole, and other recreational areas.
- River clean up and how well the parks are taken care of.
- Greenbelt. Parks.
- The river. Temple. Tautphaus Park.
- The river. New shopping areas. A strong chamber.
- Shopping opportunities. River frontage. Power generation. Great golf courses. Regional airport.
- Greenbelt. Regulating growth. City services. Golf courses.
- River as principal feature of city center. Tautphaus Park, including zoo. Kate Curley Park.
- Great parks, river, golf courses, airport, schools, health care.
- Positive attitude towards growth. Greenbelt and art for downtown.
- Our small town feel and a lot of big town services. Also the beauty of the Snake River along with our ag base economy.
- Parks and recreation. Highly educated city. Redevelopment of many areas (improvement of land uses.)
- Greenbelt. University Place. McDermott. Tautphaus. Community parks. All boat access to the River. Of course, close proximity to world class fishing, hunting, skiing, etc. Low crime rates.
- Greenbelt, other parks (and the flower beds!). Zoo. Golf courses, especially Pinecrest. Revitalized parts of downtown. Airport (super convenient).
- Low crime.
- Green, green, green.
- Greenbelt obviously. Farmer's market. Trees. Downtown. Tremendous growth in the arts. Excellent non-profits at work.
- The Greenbelt. Historic district. Cultural facilities downtown.

- The people.
- Great recreational opportunities including golf, baseball, soccer, hockey, tennis, etc.
- Greenbelt. Even with growth, it still feels like a small town.
- River. The mall. Growth on Hitt Road and Channing.
- Parks, greenbelt, golf courses.
- The greenbelt. All the trees that have turned this desert into a green area. In addition, the general cleanliness of the city and the abundance of beautiful well-kept parks.
- Riverwalk. McDermott Field. Downtown, especially considering revitalization. Historic districts.
- Riverwalk. City hall. The parks and the zoo.
- The people and their spirit of giving. The river walkway and parks.
- Our greenbelt, Tautphaus Park, Freeman Park, and riverwalk.
- Greenbelt, parks, golf courses, Williard Arts Center, civic auditorium – needs renovation, Idaho Falls Arts Council, symphony.
- Riverwalk. Regional transportation hub. Trees/green. Parks, recreational areas. Clean streets.
- Greenbelt. Shopping areas. Downtown events. City fiber optic network. Tautphaus park and the Idaho Falls Zoo.
- Close to national recreational opportunities. Semi-friendly community. Pretty good community spirit. Same 200 people get involved in every community activity.
- Airport. Greenbelt. Health services. Education (K-12 and higher education). Cultural attractions.
- The river, an opportunistic downtown.
- Space to use. Greenbelt potential. Downtown has huge potential. Higher education and healthcare.
- Parks, especially the Snake River greenbelt.
- Greenbelt, downtown revitalization, zoo, medical facilities, cultural – Colonial, Museum of Idaho, ARTI, Art Guild.
- Snake River and Greenbelt. Downtown I.D. Environment.
- Greenbelt and extended concept.
- River town. Pedestrian scale of downtown – authentic buildings. Downtown re-hab.
- Downtown is still alive. Riverwalk. Easy transportation routes.
- Greenbelt/Freeman Park.
- Regional retail area. Size: small enough to feel a part of it yet large enough to attract franchise businesses. Very progressive: city leaders want growth.
- Riverwalk.
- Parks, recreation, greenbelt.
- Greenbelt. Adherence to development plan.
- Close to outdoor recreation: fishing, hunting, camping, etc. Friendly overall attitude.

- Greenbelt. Recreation (gold, water activity, greenbelt walkway, etc.)
Quality of people.
- Greenbelt development and redevelopment. Taylor's Crossing. Downtown.
- River walking. Greenbelt. Development and growth of airport.
- Safety of community. Cleanliness of community. Vito Russo.
- Greenbelt area.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt. Parks and recreation.
- Snake River waterfall.
- Places like old downtown, South Boulevard, and Taylor's Crossing.
- Order. Open spaces. Respect.
- Greenbelt. Foot hills. River.
- Snake River/greenbelt.
- The friendly people. The greenbelt. Shopping opportunities. Beautiful summers.
- The overall make-up of this small, well-rounded community.
- Our regional airport. Visitors center. Zoo. Parks. McDermott Field. Greenbelt.
- Good parks system. The push toward developing an actual greenbelt. Redevelopment of our industrial areas near the entries to the city, and knowledgeable P&Z staff and PW staff willing to work to balance the interests of the development community and community at large.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Weather. Small town mentality – hard to change.
- Very high property tax. At times to provincial thinking. Re: benefits of growth. Lack of restaurants and social amenities. Beautiful downtown core that is not receiving the attention it deserves to grow and prosper. No events center/hockey rink.
- No apparent coordinated plan, or if there is one, it's wide open with regard to housing and business facilities with regard to a theme or standards for facilities. For example, drive over to Jackson and observe facilities less than 10-15 years old. Whether a Smith's Food King, gas station, or home, all must meet minimum architectural standards. Seems like its all "builders choice."
- I-15 eyesores. Sunnyside and traffic flows.
- Lack of downtown parking.
- Slum areas. Cost of housing rising out of control.
- Empty box stores. Get old filled before building more.
- The traffic flows – 17th Street. The reputation of the airport. The roundabout – public needs an education.
- The one or two days of the week there is not much to do. The City could also have more culture and diversity. Bigger cities and communities have

things to do everyday of the week. No pro sport teams in Idaho Falls area or Idaho.

- Appearance of Broadway and Yellowstone.
- Traffic on 17th Street. Public transportation.
- Broadway. Letter streets.
- Need coordination between city and county – better but still work to do. Signage to make it easy to get around town. Downtown revitalization.
- There is no “Starbucks.” This has to be a sign of progressive development. The slow development of improvement on Sunnyside Road.
- Traffic lights in key areas – Hitt and Sunnyside, Channing and Sunnyside. Recreation center: needs a facelift inside and out. Traffic lines on roads.
- Hitt and Sunnyside. The east side of the River from Panchari to Sunnyside Road. How long will it take to improve this side?
- Downtown area. Broadway exit off of I-15 to downtown.
- Old ugly buildings downtown. Needs to re-vamp, clean-up. Downtown parking.
- Downtown has great potential but parking will be a major impediment to redevelopment if not addressed.
- The boarded up downtown area – so much potential being missed.
- Roads. Lack of diverse restaurants.
- Its streets. Its layout, especially where the original town site intersects with the north-south grid. Civic auditorium – a white elephant – too big for some events, too small for others.
- Taxes too high for home inside the City limit or too high! Not even that high in Boise. Downtown is run down. We don’t have a college and are a feeder community for ISU and Pocatello until we contribute to education! And show some commitment to the future. The INEL will continue to DIE. Think about a new light rail to the site. Connect it to the airport. Build a college. Geographically we are ideally located. What about a medical school that would serve Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana and overflow from Utah. ISU is not the answer to the problem. ISU should be a small community college and Idaho Falls should have an energy university. We have to have new thinking.
- The way the city appears from the freeway. The look of the railroad area downtown.
- No events center.
- The lack of coordinated planning between our county and city.
- Northgate Mile between railroad bridge to intersection with North Woodruff. East side of Yellowstone between Broadway and 17th Street.
- Air travel. Happy to hear news of Northwest Airlines.
- Traffic control on 17th Street and Sunnyside Road. Downtown parking.
- Recreation center. Cost of airline travel in and out of Idaho Falls.
- All the big stores are located in an area that cannot handle the traffic (Grand Teton Mall, etc.)

- All of the mail development on 17th Street which causes traffic accidents. I also think that all the vacant buildings in our downtown area is very unattractive. I believe that we need more locally owned businesses (restaurants, shops, and also after hours entertainment).
- 17th Street – too many accidents, too much traffic. Education, specifically high school. Having a child that is a senior, I am truly disappointed in his experience. Too many issues not addressed and ignored, i.e., drugs, misbehavior by athletes, etc.
- High property rates, high electric rates, road infrastructure.
- Litter: garbage cans are gone out of parks in the winter.
- Wal-Mart. Traffic on 17th Street.
- 17th traffic. Poor access to southern Idaho Falls from the freeway (Sunnyside, 17th Street). Hillcrest High needs its own football stadium.
- 17th Street traffic. Not enough activities for kids (outside of sports), i.e., outdoor swimming area (like the small community has in Moses Lake, WA).
- Traffic control – signs. Street deterioration. Downtown buildings look bad.
- Not enough green.
- Very poor enforcement of ordinances such as multiple cars jammed into lots, snowmobiles on parking strips. Cars block sidewalks. Junk on lawns. Few trees in new development. Community college functions very limited.
- Deteriorating buildings on Broadway. Sprawl from the core and heart of the City.
- No shopping diversity: selections very limited. Zoning of areas: there appears to be no consistency. Opportunities for relocating spouses. Taxes.
- Downtown is very visible to visitors but not enough work has been done to identify and rate by importance the steps to create a cohesive downtown. The businesses need stronger direction on growing downtown rather than a bunch of individuals trying to fund their personal priorities.
- The area coming off the freeway on Broadway to downtown.
- Parking downtown. Memorial Drive needs to be a pathway or link to the downtown. Larger performance areas off of Memorial Drive by the City.
- The fact that there is no events center and recreation center. We need more venues for youth.
- Warehouse industry close to interstate. Bad historic neighborhoods.
- Downtown/vacant buildings. Sprawl.
- Lack of way-finding: signage. 17th Street. Downtown Yellowstone/Broadway: major eyesores, need to update.
- Cars that are permanently parked on roads. Lack of cleanliness in/on numbered streets and overgrowth of landscape, junk in yards, etc.
- Idaho Falls railroad depot: not a good fast impression for visitors from California on the Oriental Express.
- Too much development away from downtown. Need more focus on central area.
- Abandoned industrial buildings, 17th Street traffic, no public transportation.

- Very poor signage for getting around town, i.e., to attractions, to zoo and visitor center, downtown. Too few people making decisions for too many. Too political on too many levels. Same 200 people get involved in community activities.
- Lack of a wayfinding mission. Lack of development of city core (downtown is run down – lack of desire to fix it). No events center.
- Congested 17th Street, an aging downtown.
- Roads: surface conditions and road marking is extremely poor. Key junctions (re Target exit on Hitt Road) are not traf..... Needs better east-west trunks; 17th and Sunnyside are not enough.
- Traffic on 17th Street because of congestion of retail in the east side of community. Better planning disperses these concentrations so we don't see empty stores on the west side of town and traffic jams in the east.
- 17th Street, Wal-Mart. Entrances to city: Broadway, north and south Yellowstone. Parking downtown. Traffic on Memorial Drive. Lack of recreation center and facilities for teens.
- 17th Street traffic; you have no right turn lanes. Lights are not synchronized. You want traffic to move, not be stopped by lights.
- Ugly highway entrances.
- Traffic design: allowable left turns where they should not be. Lack of left turn signals. Poor road landscaping. Lack of four lanes (Woodruff-Sunnyside). Downtown re-hab (not quick enough). Need multi-use event center outside of town.
- Old buildings, trash is visible, lack of public pride. No recycling at curb. Mixed venues: business, housing.
- Bad parking at Edwards Theater and downtown.
- In the past, too isolated, not actively working with other communities in economic development.
- No community college.
- Lack of public transportation across town.
- Need to improve and promote downtown.
- Traffic on 17th, 25th Street, and Hitt intersection.
- Issues with some of the streets (poor surface, not enough lanes, use of street safety signals, etc.) Downtown parking for business employees, etc.
- Traffic congestion – 17th and Hitt. Slum and blight around town.
- Non-vibrant downtown: sidewalks roll up at night. Lack of diversity: population, demographics, alternatives to current way of thinking.
- Lack of basic services outside the city limits (i.e. sewer, water).
- Downtown parking. Location of mall and hospital in relation to freeway. Lack of ICC facility for hockey.
- Not enough youth activities (8-14) or activity spots (skate park). Employment opportunities above \$10.00 per hour.
- Yellowstone is dirty from Sunnyside to Broadway.

- Places like I-15 exits, ugly signage, North Yellowstone (weeds, machinery, hodge podge)
- Pavement, lack of traffic light in Ammon.
- Traffic! This has become the dominant feature: cars.
- Not one central location for coordination of recreation and a water park. "Corner drug store" where people used to meet.
- The weather in winter. The traffic (lights at intersections or lack thereof). Nothing for kids or teenagers to do.
- No convention center to bring....
- Entrances off the highways and interstate into Idaho Falls. The industrial buildings along Broadway need to come down. Lack of stop lights at many needed intersections.
- Conditions of roads, lack of major arterials to carry large volumes of traffic at peak times, lack of city traffic engineer to time street lights for effective traffic movement.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- Need to develop air cargo at the airport.
- Event center. More large name brand companies coming to town.
- Too localized – not spread out enough.
- Sprawl in the county. Small children not ready for school. Poor quality day/child care. Other cities have quality standards.
- Concern too many big box retail growth and lower paid jobs even though its an increase in number of jobs. Downtown needs to be healthy and vibrant and strong in order for the city as a whole to grow successfully outward.
- There needs to be planned development. Sign ordinances should be initiated.
- Vibrant downtown. Full development towards the Sunnyside exchange. Adequate water and sewer for the future. Maintain our park system.
- Quality of life needs commitment from the businesses, the political body and the citizens. You can't have it both ways – reduced taxes vs. amenities.
- Can we make the transition from a small community to a thriving metropolis as we grow? I think we need to educate the public.
- Downtown revitalization and vacancies. Big boxes. Urban sprawl – its horrible.
- Being able to work together with other communities in the area.
- Planned growth, especially roads, streets, and infrastructure. The city and city council are doing an excellent job and encourage much ????.
- Research/industrial park. Expansion of ISU/UI/EITC presence and services in this community. Work with INL on Center for Advanced Energy Studies.

- May diminish from central core downtown area. Need to enhance downtown. Need to continue to improve transportation corridor.
- Transportation infrastructure.
- Missing opportunities because we are more concerned with today's crisis. Even more "politically correct" decisions. "Classes" of people splitting up social fabric of community based on annual income. Not doing an event center.
- Progressive but fiscally sound.
- As much cooperation as possible to reclaim the potential beauty along the River. Let's move as quickly as possible.
- Urban sprawl.
- Commercial growth has a "lemmings" mentality if allowed to happen by zoning, etc. Break up those concentrations of retail and create what's best for citizens instead of Wal-Mart.
- Lack of support for local businesses vs. national chains. Broadway neglect. Recreation center. Events center. Traffic management. Parking downtown.
- Adherence to a good comprehensive plan. Continued commitment to the planning process and enforcement. Do not let the city neglect its responsibility for public facilities even though they may not pay their own way. Continue to support development of downtown IF.
- Need home rule or local option! WalMart puts small biz out of biz but brings in folks from MT and WY to "use the facilities" and IF can't get any capture of \$s from this entire process. How can we offset biz closures? W/o it we can't develop downtown. Need more aggressive annexation of growth-impacted areas in county, i.e., Woodruff Avenue, etc. Need some kind of development east of town in the hills overlooking the city.
- That there is no plan. I had no idea there was one. It needs to be very visible. People have to hope for change.
- We need "planned" growth, not just growth. The growth needs to occur throughout the city, not just on the east side. We need a community events center. We need better communication between the City and INEEL.
- Out of state individuals purchasing large amounts of real estate.
- Too many people, too little area. Downtown being reduced in size.
- Transportation system: we need a loop around the city.
- Incentives to locate national chain businesses at the expense of smaller, local business. Need to revitalize downtown Idaho Falls.
- I am concerned that new growth overshadows the rehabilitation of our unique areas around town.
- Lack of local growth (business) on north segment. Need of major employers to sustain growth pattern.
- Community resists change and diversity.

- Sewer-water and other features necessary to support industry areas.
- Traffic flow. Industrial areas with controls for landscape development.
- Employment opportunities.
- Big business putting little business out of business.
- Make it beautiful! Not ugly.
- More tourist/commercial attractions. Develop Sunnyside Road. More air traffic/more options or larger planes to SLC.
- Need public transportation and means to get around the city in ways that don't require a car.
- Lack of a central location for recreation.
- Too fast of growth. Protective covenants. Lack of available property for expansion.
- My interpretation of your plan as presented (community survey tables at WalMart) is that it is an effort to try to shape growth by consensus. I think the concept of asking people what they want and then formulating a comprehensive growth plan is backwards. You will end up with responses that are self-serving...the NIMBY mentality. I believe the draft base plan should be based on sound planning and growth principles (areas in which you are educated). Traffic design, location of services, fire department locations, school locations, zoning areas, etc.... should first be outlined and designed by P&Z with the help of the other departments and agencies based on sound planning principles and projected growth rates and patterns. Then this draft comprehensive plan can be submitted in public forums for comments on what else the public would like to see in their community. Those comments that don't make sense due to constraints of some of the previously mentioned items can be eliminated and those that may make sense can be reviewed for implementation... Don't get me wrong, I applaud efforts in ensuring positive growth in our community as well as your efforts to involve the community at large. However, I believe you should be one of the driving forces behind the growth plans and design rather than just a facilitator of self-serving desires.
- Parking garage. Creating a future master plan for our downtown area. We can't let our core of our community look untended or ignored.
- That we don't have an effective arterial highway around the city. I'm concerned that 17th Street and Sunnyside will eventually both bottleneck.
- Traffic! I also worry about overcrowding in the schools.
- Growth too fast: infrastructure can't handle. Planning must keep commensurate with growth.
- Too many big boxes. Incorporating the natural resources into the commercial development of the city.
- It will continue to grow as a patchwork of developer ideas.
- None, I know things will fall into place.

- Transportation in region. More snow removal in city: not just once or twice a year as it now.
- Traffic flow. Controlled future development. Ability to provide domestic water. Public safety.
- When development happens, I would like to see more businesses and community events that bring and give more activities for individuals to participate in.
- Keeping the infrastructure up to date with growth. Complete Sunnyside Road and intersection with I-15.
- The need for a beltway around the city. Need for events center.
- No commitment from city for downtown.
- Planned – encourage small business to stay!
- Keep up the good work in “Grow Idaho Falls” – stay focused.
- Broadway Avenue revitalization. Downtown revitalization.
- Proper alignment of school boundaries. Parking and traffic at Edwards Plaza and spot for another restaurant. How can we do that – no room.
- Revive downtown.
- Traffic flow.
- That a long-term beltway is anchored into all future plans for transportation management. Not just auto-truck but to accommodate public transportation options as well.
- Smart growth – growth based on growth of industry that contributes to future smart growth, i.e., information systems, medicine, research, etc. Not growth that restricts future growth, i.e., businesses that take away from quality of life issues.
- Coordinated planning through all the various organizations involved.
- I am concerned about certain parts of town becoming the place where wealth is concentrated while older parts of town become more run-down.
- Economic diversity.
- Growth all going to the south.
- I would prefer to see growth replace the existing blight of Yellowstone instead of adding new land to the city and expanding out east and west.
- Cooperation between city of Idaho Falls and Ammon. Planned growth.
- As far-sighted as Idaho Falls tries to be, it is difficult to understand why we don’t see the value of investing in our youth by creating a recreation center. An events center is an excellent idea. So is recreation center.
- I feel that it is very important that with all of the new housing developments it is very important to maintain good standards and CC&Rs so that we have areas that will maintain value.
- Lack of inventory of land zoned for industrial growth and the type of growth that creates jobs.
- Highway and streets?
- Traffic.

- Further utilize the River. Widen streets to support growth.
- Can the schools handle the growth?

WHERE'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE?

- Greenbelt.
- Foothills.
- Sage Lakes Golf Course.
- Pinecrest Golf Course.
- Downtown and Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- Freeman Park.
- Freeman Park.
- IB and TP.
- Freeman Park.
- Greenbelt. Overlook over Snake River valley.
- Tautphaus Park.
- River Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt and downtown.
- Snake River.
- Visitors Center.
- Tautphaus Park Zoo.
- Greenbelt, Snake River.
- Downtown, Freeman Park.
- Riverwalk.
- Golf courses.
- The mall.
- Greenbelt.
- Highland Park/McDermott Field.
- Greenbelt.
- Freeman Park.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt and the zoo.
- Hitt Road and 17th Street.
- Along the River.
- Community Park.
- Downtown.
- Sage Lakes, Tautphaus Park, Greenbelt.
- Zoo. New shopping like Nordstrom's.
- Sand Creek.
- Downtown/Greenbelt.
- Zoo.
- Downtown.
- Greenbelt.
- Vino Rosso. Colonial Theater.

- The area along the River. Taylor Crossing is a move in the right direction.
- Sage Lakes.
- River for relaxing. Hitt Road for shopping and entertainment.
- Hitt Road: movies, good eats, shopping.
- Greenbelt. Thanks, Rotary.
- Blacktail Reservoir.

OTHER COMMENTS:

- We need to redevelop old Yellowstone mall area.
- Community Park. – need to make it or another location a place for dogs to be free to chase balls, Frisbees, etc. and not on a leash at all times. Have dog catchers focus on loose running dogs – not those accompanied by those attempting to train them.
- I think an arena for sports/concert is needed.
- Connect Greenbelt to historic downtown. Revitalization of downtown.
- Parks department does a great job. Community park, Tautphaus park, etc. are great community assets.
- Greenbelt needs to be identified in some way as river walk.
- Would like to see more parks and recreation opportunities. Places for low cost activities. Public transportation (light rail to 17th Street shopping areas from west side).

**BOARD OF REALTORS
APRIL 20, 2005**

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Greenbelt, Falls, zoo, park.
- Greenbelt, parks & recreation areas including zoo & Community Park.
- Greenbelt area.
- The flower gardens and trees. The family environment. The amount of parks.
- The greenbelt area and some of the parks.
- Greenbelt.
- The water & green belt.
- Flower beds
- Independently owned stores downtown, potential of the historic district of downtown, bike path on 25th.
- Quality of life, progressive growth.
- New buildings, parks, new roads – need to make more attractive areas or re-do older buildings.
- Low crime, beautiful Green Beltway, Falls, friendly community, Gateway to Tetons.
- Greenbelt, flowers, town appears very green & clean – also new development going on by the river is very positive.
- Greenbelt, building increasing, new businesses being allowed to open in Idaho Falls.
- Greenbelt, Culture Center Area.
- The Community Parks and Community Centers, golf courses. These are beautiful & well maintained.
- Golf courses.
- Atmosphere/surrounding area.
- Rivers, Temple, Downtown
- Downtown, greenbelt.
- The restoration of the downtown area and the Greenbelt to make the Snake River which is the main feature of our town a beautiful place. I think also that we to continue to focus on our parks.
- Greenbelt river area, Downtown is a fun place to be.
- Edward's Theaters, Game World, mall store –chains, downtown, children associated places.
- Falls, downtown old Idaho Falls, Colonial Theater, museum, Taylors Landing.
- Close to fly fishing & skiing.
- Great location for new persons to come and live. Seems to have more going and museum is good.
- River – Greenbelt. Location.
- Location. Calmness.

- The community, the people, the falls.
- Lifestyle, family environment, cost of living, ammeneties.
- River/Greenbelt. City parks.
- River
- The river & greenbelt. Clean and kept up.
- The people, Greenbelt.
- "Idaho Falls". Snake River.
- Care & landscaping of public parks community.
- River-greenbelt. Museum. Golf courses.
- Parks. Taylor Crossing – fountains – ponds. River.
- Our greenbelt is getting better and better. Tautphaus Park & Zoo. The beautiful architecture at Taylor's Crossing.
- The Greenbelt, the parks, the zoo, nice clean neighborhoods, Colonial Arts.
- Nice streets, services (water, sewer, garbage)
- Green belt, zoo, good roads.
- Location, clean air, the thought that goes into planning, the residents.
- Golf courses, city parks.
- Affordable housing, great medical/health care, clean city, parks, low crime.
- Location, clean air, recreation.
- Landscaped areas – downtown. River – Green belt.
- Size – clean – close to activities (80 mi. radius)
- Climate – golf.
- Quality of life, parks, progressive growth. Good working relationship with builders-developers with city.
- Development of Green Belt. Idaho Falls Temple & surrounding area. Quality of living.
- Access to leaders. Quality of city owned services, electricity, trash collection.
- Greenbelt, parks.
- Snake River.
- Greenbelt.
- The Falls, the community.
- Views
- Cleanliness and parks and recreation.
- Greenbelt, museum.
- Greenbelt, the mall, the parks, golf courses.
- Cleanliness, safety.
- City services, library, water, sewer, garbage, greenbelt.
- Greenbelt. Overall direction of improvements.
- Greenbelt flowers. Good starter homes.
- Low cost on services for the residents.
- Safety of the community.

- River and Green belt, golf course
- Parks
- River, golf courses, anywhere but 17th Street.
- Golf courses, green belt.
- Greenbelt, River, green areas.
- River and park area.
- The 'green' space! Idaho Falls has many beautiful parks & walkways. I hope the city continues this trend as the area grows.
- Parks, golf courses, Planning Board, good police protection.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Roads, traffic flow, directions.
- Traffic conditions on 17th, synchronization of lights in congested areas.
- Commercial too dense in few areas. Need to spread out – head west.
- Some streets need traffic lights. More planning needed on roads. Reed's Dairy located in the city not allowing prices to rise on the Westside (due to the smell of the manure).
- Not enough trees
- Downtown – nice to see the old "Eagles" building rejuvenation – on the river – where are the homes? Restaurants?
- Town shuts down at 5 pm
- Industrial on river.
- Dilapidated historic district, strip malls, Walmart II, lack of bicycle lanes on roads.
- Non-productive relationship with Ammon regarding Hill Rd. Development along the river.
- Many un-kept homes and old, run down buildings.
- Lack of entertainment.
- 17th St. Schools – I am very disappointed in the high school level of schools.
- That Idaho Falls services are covering Iona (Police, Fire Department, all services used.)
- We don't use the river to its fullest – need more restaurants, shops along the river. Traffic on 17th, parking downtown.
- The entrance to the City at West Broadway Entrance. Not very appealing.
- X-Mas lights downtown. Parking downtown.
- Industrial development along the river.
- Traffic, not enough big roads.
- Heavy traffic 17th.
- 17th Street and all of the congestion. Some of the older neighborhoods that are deteriorating rapidly and becoming problem areas. Walmart.
- Downtown is difficult for business due to parking. High taxes – I live in the county (don't see advantage for me to live in city and pay more taxes).

- Too many fast food restaurants. Not able to get from end of town to the other in a timely manner.
- Belair, Clair E. Gale area.
- Wind.
- Plans for daycare use in?? It seems to be a difficult task to get the areas and understand for daycare use areas. You need a simple form to follow.
- The upkeep of the downtown. The view of the freeway on IS.
- Old part of town that is run down.
- Parking in small areas & garbage.
- Parts of town that are gravel roads. Sore eyes off freeways.
- Downtown. Parts of 1st Street. Vacant commercial building scattered throughout the city.
- Industry along river.
- Parking downtown. Out of date buildings.
- Garbage on side of roads.
- No parking Downtown – to encourage investment & development downtown.
- Slowness to upgrade facilities. Rec Center, hockey arena, McDermott field.
- Traffic – signage to areas other than downtown. Dwntrwn pkg. Dwntrwn business – lack of hotels, shopping, restaurants.
- 17th Street. Streets hooking Waterford – Stonebrook – and further east.
- Downtown Area parking is horrible. The view of the city from Hwy 20 & 15 is ugly. 17th Street traffic needs help. We have no convention center. Tax differential between Ammon & Idaho Falls.
- Entrances into Idaho Falls from the Interstate. High taxes.
- Costs: Taxes! Power.
- High taxes. Downtown could be improved and be more inviting. We need an inviting entry to the city.
- Cost of taxes, cost of power, number of city employees & services duplicated between city & county, why 2 school districts?
- High taxes, roads – traffic flow. Need more things for the teenagers to do.
- Downtown. Taxes!!
- High Real Estate taxes. Somewhat hard for new businesses to come in & encourage growth. Retail along way from Interstate. Too many duplicated employees between city & county.
- Property taxes.
- Total taxes.
- Taxes
- High taxes
- Property taxes. Roads in some areas left unattended. Need repairs. Snow removal.

- Traffic control. Lack of street repair and additions or expansions of roadways.
- Potholes in the roads. Lack of parking in downtown area.
- Industrial development along river. New freeway access direct to Sunnyside – should have upgraded York Rd. instead.
- Sunnyside construction.
- Limited or no parking downtown.
- Parking, roads.
- Downtown parking.
- Traffic flow, parking downtown.
- Our downtown needs help. Parking is terrible.
- Roads.
- Majority of stores located on 17th & Hitt.
- Roads – bad.
- Travel on 17th Street.
- Traffic.
- 17th Street traffic.
- Traffic lights, no right turn lanes.
- 17th Street.
- Traffic flows.
- Traffic, access in and out of businesses.
- Traffic flow!
- Road conditions.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- Roads, traffic flow
- Overbuilding of multi-unit housing – what are the regulations concerning such building.
- Water resources.
- City of I.F. and county growing faster than the planning of infrastructure based on the growth.
- Streets, utilities.
- Radical actions of the city police to put entertainment out of business.
- Too much going towards Ammon.
- It is very unfriendly to people who don't want to use cars all the time; lack of crosswalks, sidewalks, education on alternative transportation.
- Traffic. Too many shopping centers in only one area. Need to spread out to avoid so much traffic.
- CAFOs, Water
- I am very concerned about 17th St. & concerned that Sunnyside will be the same. Also concerned about the # of new houses & developments. Are things being done correct?
- Tax base within certain subdivisions.

- Need more trees, traffic patterns, the downtown will die.
- Traffic issues are a huge concern.
- Teamwork with surrounding areas = planning for growth.
- That we can compete globally.
- Keeping costs down, develop to South, needs more recreation – outdoor pools.
- That there is not enough regulation on the planning and zoning of new developments in our area. I think we need to focus on bringing in my locally owned businesses rather than the Walmart's.
- Will the river be a key part of future development? Taxes going up more making business and families not want to live in Idaho Falls.
- Crime rate, traffic control.
- Beautifying the city w/trees, etc.
- Should be more orderly.
- The downtown area. Safety.
- Conjestion.
- Not being able to keep up with the growing community.
- Is it growing too fast?
- Crime. Target/Dillard's entrances – Red light.
- Which way it's growing.
- Parking downtown. Roads are too narrow.
- Development has been predominately Eastside & Southside. Too many apartment buildings being built.
- Traffic problems including stop lights @ critical intersections.
- Development of new construction areas – need more beauty instead of generic. Sunnyside Exchange.
- Exit from I-15 to Sunnyside. Drugs in youth.
- Urban sprawl – We need better designed communities. We need more cooperation between the city of I.F., city of Ammon & County. The comprehensive plans need to have common goals. Better information sharing between city planners & developers.
- We are being surrounded by Ammon & Bonn. Co. developments. IF future development may be landlocked. Taxes are a huge issue.
- Not keeping up w/Ammon & paying for the impact of their development & not sharing the tax burden.
- Careful & diligent use of taxpayers' money.
- That we work closer with the county & Ammon.
- Growing too fast – road systems are not handling the traffic – the cars are not following speed limits, way too much speeding in neighborhoods.
- We need growth beyond 17th Street.
- Planning between communities.
- How difficult the City Planners are to work with!
- Too much growth – too fast.
- Doing it right.

- Blocking growth corridors. Keep current annexation processes.
- The continuous rise in property taxes. People are moving from city to nicer homes but paying considerable lower taxes.
- Improve quality of service of every department. Upgrading of residences (city owned) and other buildings. Rid city of "dead wood".
- Ability to move traffic, especially main roads like 17th Street, Hitt Rd., Sunnyside.
- No new commercial development away from 17th Street – need to develop satellite, local areas for small commercial, such as grocery stores, near subdivision growth. Old Monroc area could be developed for commercial along river (restaurants, etc.). Need to offer incentives for new business.
- Over building/residential.
- Parking downtown. Convention & Visitor's Center.
- Population
- Traffic congestion as relates to commercial growth.
- Seems to only be going east. Congestion on 17th St. Sunnyside improvement has taken forever!
- Too much traffic on the eastside, would like to see it equalize on the Westside.
- Good planning.
- That there will only be one shopping area – there should be a North & Westside area.
- Everything has gone East – more West & North as well. The roads can't handle the traffic from West to East.
- Water issues, taxes. Downtown revitalization with new development increase costs for services.
- Overgrowth. Layout of the roads.
- Need a program posture to attract businesses into the city limits – need to not lose to Ammon. Tax rates need to be more competitive to Ammon area.
- Affordability.
- Traffic.
- Roads, better traffic flow.
- Even out the city – not having everything on one side.
- Traffic lights, streets, roads.
- When large developments are reviewed, please consider stop lights getting out of the new developments to the main thoroughfare street to get in & out. 1st & St. Clair good example.
- That there is not enough consideration given to traffic flow and access. This goes for all of the city not just retail and subdivisions.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS (One Response Please)?

- Parks/zoo

- Zoo
- Greenbelt
- Taylors crossing
- Bowlero Bar.
- Green Belt
- Downtown along river, numbered streets, Tautphaus & Community Park.
- Greenbelt
- Where new Super WalMart and new colonial buildings are.
- Falls-Green Belt.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- Parks – streets with trees.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- The parks.
- Parks.
- Vino Rosso.
- Greenbelt, downtown.
- River area – I don't go there as much as I would like to, but it creates a great & unique image that Idaho Falls needs.
- The temple.
- River, river walk & park.
- Greenbelt area & river.
- River
- Taylors Crossing.
- Tayler Crossing
- My house & the Temple.
- River
- The Greenbelt.
- Community Park.
- The Greenbelt.
- Pinecrest.
- Taufus Park.
- The Greenbelt – it is a great benefit to a lot of people.
- The greenbelt.
- My home, keep my taxes low so I can stay!
- Zoo
- The green belt area
- My neighborhood park.
- Green Belt.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt. Tautphaus Park.
- River
- Home

- Taltphaus Park
- My neighborhood. It is close to Community Park.
- Golf courses – summer.
- River/greenbelt.
- Tauphtaus Park.
- River
- My home!
- Eastside
- Memorial Park.
- Greenbelt.
- Pinecrest.
- Sunbelt & River area.
- Tauphaus Park.
- Tauphas Park.
- The Falls.
- My house.
- Greenbelt area.
- Greenbelt.
- Tauphaus Park.
- City Park.
- The River and “falls”
- The falls.
- The River, falls, park areas.
- The downtown/Greenbelt.
- The golf course.

YELLOWSTONE BUSINESS COALITION
APRIL 27, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Greenbelt, Tautphsus Park, Fred Meyer, health care, downtown, Noise Park
- Location in West, small size, lots of retail, health care.
- Parks, nice life style, low violence.
- People, greenbelt, parks, arts, galleries, Museum of Idaho, downtown renovation.
- Water Falls, itself!
- The River, the scenery, the "small" town atmosphere.
- It is not a big city like Boise.
- Greenbelt and parks.
- Proximity of mountains, good climate, abundant water.
- The lovely scenery. This is what drew my family out here in the first place.
- Large number of trees, parks, recreation facilities.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Entrances to city, 17th Street, Ammon-impasse, state metering water.
- Traffic patterns, very poor for bicycle, no mass transit.
- Down town blight, 17th (soon sunny side), Walmart instead of "local stores".
- Poor visual entrance to city from interstate & state hiways. Need to green up & "pretty up" main city entrances.
- Older areas that are not kept up.
- Air pollution from primarily burning fields in summer and wood burning in the winter.
- We don't have enough water and a couple corners. Need stop lights.
- Water waste, no water meters.
- Too much growth – noise – traffic.
- How our community lacks the diversity that is needed to create several different points of views.
- Large billboards, ugly businesses.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- Infill before we sprawl, Invest in downtown, adequate parks – bike/hiking trails.
- Very little walkability built into planning of developments – sprawl.
- A change in attitude from home town to metro area.

- Poor city leadership, they don't take risks to visualize a vibrant downtown & progressive business environment & do not act on looking ahead & being pro-active.
- Lack of industry & site funding.
- Pollution of air and water. Development of wildlife habitat. Over crowdedness, crime.
- I'm afraid we won't have enough water.
- Traffic flow, meter-use, residential density.
- Population density in the valley is pushing out wildlife habitat.
- Increase of traffic, more stoplights.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS (One Response Please)?

- Vino Rosso
- Green Belt
- River Walk
- My home
- Down Town area
- The Falls.
- The falls.
- Freeman Park Disc Golf Course.
- Winco
- Golf courses, green belt.

Skyline High School
May 2, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- OT hall
- The river, parks.
- Small town "feel", not heavy crime
- Mall, parks.
- River, scenery.
- Greenbelt, parks.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Police
- All of the pot holes in the roads. 12th Street, 1st Street, the stop light on 1st Street. More trees.
- Traffic on 17th St.
- People having too many dogs or cats. To have better bathroom at parks, etc.
- Nothing to do, everything there is to do costs.
- Tobacco, stores, and bars.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- The road construction
- Too many buildings and not enough land.
- Activities for the youth – young people moving away because they feel there is nothing for them to do in Idaho Falls. Heavy traffic patterns cause noise in the neighborhood.
- Teenagers want to be valued.
- A bigger zoo.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS (One Response Please)?

- Edwards movie theater
- Apple
- The skate park
- The Green belt
- Greenbelt
- To be at the mall.
- A store.
- Zoo

**Chamber off Commerce Forum
May 10, 2005**

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Greenbelt.
- Communication capabilities – Fiber (different vendors), wireless copper pair, and cable.
- Low electricity rate for commercial.
- The Greenbelt area. The parks, zoo.
- Parks & zoo.
- Smaller town appeal with conveniences still available to larger communities.
- Like-services are not concentrated in areas where travel is required to reach these services. This would be enhanced even more if smaller commercial centers are allowed to continue to pop up.
- The tree planning. The parks.
- Greenbelt. Downtown potential.
- Riverfront. Downtown potential.
- Greenbelt, quality of schools, cultural opportunities, parks, golf courses, zoo.
- Greenbelt, Tautphaus Park, Chaklears Ballpark, great dining, variety of business, medical industry, golf courses.
- Greenbelt & access to city water parks, ex-police & fire department, city serve-water dept & sanitation & sewer, golf courses.
- The Farmers Market & landscaping.
- Tautphaus Park (zoo etc), Willard Arts Center, Idaho Museum (thanks Greg!), McDermott ball park (when we rebuild it), Greenbelt.
- Flowers downtown and at city parks. Good quality of life.
- Quality of life.
- Well maintained parks & recreation areas. The city is clean.
- It is clean and there is a community feel to this city.
- Cleanliness, trees, small town feel. Alternative routes to travel.
- Greenbelt, River, falls.
- The falls & river & greenbelt paths, the zoo.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt – Parks – River area.
- I love the roundabouts – they keep traffic moving.
- The many recreational opportunities near the lifestyle in and around the city.
- Natural beauty. Greenbelt, birds, zoo. Mature neighborhoods!
- Greenbelts. Flowers at entrances to different areas. Maple trees on numbered streets.
- Proximity to Y.N.P. & G.T.N.P., Falls & River, Greenbelt(s).

- Greenbelt, museum, library Plus Associated.
- Museums, parks, baseball, Green Belt, Colonial Theater & all arts sources.
- Museum of Idaho, Colonial Theater, Greenbelt along the River.
- Cultural opportunities/Quality of life.
- Small town atmosphere but with most big city services available. Civic Auditorium.
- The river/greenbelt, Freeman Park, the trees and flowers in the municipal areas. I think the Taylor Crossing Development will be a great feature when it is finished. Tautphous Park & Zoo. The people, the climate.
- The greenbelt/river flowing through the center of town. Historic buildings in downtown.
- Greenbelt, museum, zoo, business & health districts around 17th & Hitt Roads.
- Parks, recreation-golf, softball, etc., zoo, library, open door to city officials, flowers, trees.
- Trees, people, River area, parks – schools & colleges.
- The view of Taylor Mountain and the foothills, the greenbelt. Its location in relation to skiing, rafting, hunting, fishing, etc.
- Friendly people, safe atmosphere, parks & zoo.
- Parks/Greenbelt system, cost of utilities, generosity of residents toward the under privileged.
- Safe, the parks, Farmers Market, schools.
- Greenspace, services, electric, water, services,
- Great people feel somewhat safe, city is easy to navigate, great historical areas, great attractions like 4th of July fireworks.
- Greenbelt, “restaurant row”, museum, zoo.
- Snake River Greenbelt, concentration of retail on 17th.
- The Falls, Museum of Idaho, Colonial Theater, all of the arts program. The citizens, they are for the most part warm and friendly folks. The area being remodeled between the River, I 15,? and Broadway, Taylers Crossing.
- The greenbelt, the potential of the downtown area, the Higher Education campus, Farmer’s Market.
- Greenbelt, big new shopping areas were built in proper. Non-residential areas (Hitt Rd.). Good job! Tauphus Park & Zoo.
- The Greenbelt, Downtown but needs restored to be quaint – revitalize, culture, symphonic, museums, Colonial Theater, quality of life.
- Green Belt.
- The parks and associated recreational facilities albeit some need more care and maintenance, i.e., MacDermott and the hockey rink, Sandy Downs.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- Downtown, and Target and Hitt Road.
- Rising electricity rates for commercial the past few years.
- The old industrial/agricultural commercial areas.
- The car repair business along the R.R.
- Run down business areas.
- Eastern Idaho's apparent lack of representation on the state level.
- Bad streets that are so uneven you can't even drive the speed limit. I hate big box stores. There should be a way of creating equilibrium for local small biz – the ultimate goal is for I.F. to retain/regain a unique atmosphere.
- Approaches to IF. Lousy bike access/lanes (other than 25th). 17th Street too much traffic.
- Entry points to City – no gateway to welcome only strip malls and sprawl.
- Traffic pattern.
- Traffic on 17th – should be lower speed for less wrecks.
- ?
- Construction on Sunnyside Road. No reimbursement for loss of business.
- Happyville. Some of the number streets. Pancheri overpass!!
- Sunnyside Drive. Even after you make this a 4/lane highway, it is impossible to get out of my neighborhood (Cedar Ridge). We have no stop lights – everyone uses 25th Street instead. Inadequate walking paths from neighborhoods to Greenbelt, zoo, mall.
- Traffic during busy times, especially 17th Street.
- Driving/Holmes Ave.
- Transportation, i.e., one-way streets downtown, congestion, ability to get across town easily.
- Traffic in expanding areas, Sunnyside, new Walmart, Taylor crossing, Hitt Road, Channing wax. Traffic tools not efficient for new and increased traffic. Idaho Falls doesn't have a community events center, things for youth to do, or a university with housing & showers.
- Woodruff Ave. between Lincoln and Yellowstone is never (and has never) been a good road. Most shopping is in South Idaho Falls and coming from Rigby/Rexburg you have to drive all the way through I.F.
- Pancheri St. overpass, 17th St.
- Congestion on 17th St., downtown area looks old, run down, dirty, parking on Memorial Drive.
- 17th Street.
- Taylors crossing, 50 yellowstone, ? yellowstone.
- The industrial area in I.F.
- Lack of weekend activities. It would help to not have to travel to weekend activities. One idea is a speedway.
- Industrial areas at city entrances. Pancheri bridge over hyway.
- Downtown – refurbishment & parking needed.

- Beat-up planter in downtown, signage along hwy.
- Vacant lots with weeds.
- Downtown – empty buildings, Pancheri Overpass.
- Ugly downtown – slum looking entries into our City Center.
- Insufficient green park areas.
- Some of the older industrial areas near the railroad tracks that are not being modernized or utilized. The shopping center on Anderson/Yellowstone Hwy. that is vacant. 17th Street traffic is awful at certain times of day.
- Deterioration of buildings not being kept up (commercial & residential).
- Downtown clutter, the old shopping center on No. Yellowstone, difficult directions/addresses to some house developments.
- Downtown retail, lack of art in public places, lack of youth & recreation facilities in winter.
- Traffic, parking in downtown. No meeting space, or place for large conventions or athletic events or concerts.
- Not enough continuing education, traffic problems – it's no longer a small town, it needs a belt route. In order to get from one side of the city to the other you have to take very busy streets, i.e. 17th, Sunnyside, Hitt, Woodruff, Holms, 1st. Take I 15 and make a belt route.
- Lack of – informational signs, no lg. convention center, Pancheri Bridge.
- Recent mismanagement of library, slow snow removal esp. at intersections, no university.
- Downtown/store facings not kept up, no area for people together for outdoor activities (Riverwaltz limited), parking. Not eye appealing for people to want to come downtown. Also, lack of recreational facilities (Rec. Center, McDermont Field, Ice Park). These areas would improve local economy.
- East/west traffic flow, empty box retail – (Ernst, Life Lind, Yellowstone Mall).
- Lack of activities for ages 16-30 to relate to resulting into bad activities, cruising on 17th (street racing). Overwhelming police harassment on that street. Instead of creating a "hang out" has been a negative way to address unsafe cruising. I personally have seen police make unsafe actions (blowing thru red lights) to chase kids that weren't even doing anything almost causing accidents. Not only once but multiple times. No event center bringing large conventions, shows, concerts, etc. . .We could maybe use a race track and try to discourage street racing. We need something to bring in more outside money, possibly airport improvements and tourist attractions.
- Development of subdivisions – no landscaping – no beauty. Not enough "back road" to get around 17th St & Sunnyside. No parking downtown. Stoplights not synched.

- Traffic flow down 17th Street – stop lights, Tautphaus Park Zoo, numerous vacant buildings – old Mall (Country Club), old Ernst building.
- Entrance to community, downtown. They are improving this area but have along way to go. Negative radio programs on KID radio.
- All of the buildings on Westside & Old Fred Meyer area that are unoccupied. The over development on 17th & Hitt area. Businesses & homes on major streets that are very run down.
- Alleys are very dirty & full of junk. Any way to pave those? Especially numbered streets. No where for kids to go so they hang out on 17th Street.
- Not enough walking paths. Not enough restaurants – chains, etc., family restaurants – TGI Fridays, Red Robin, Mimi's, ? Italian restaurant.
- Old, ugly buildings.
- 17th St in the afternoon weekdays. It is a shame that there are sections of town that are on the verge of urban blight and vacancies such as Old Ernst, Fred Meyer at the expense of saturation on 17th an flow to and from these newer sprawling areas.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- Roads and traffic.
- Planned growth.
- Mixed use, including some multi-family.
- Orderly growth.
- That infrastructure issues are considered as rapid growth comes to this area.
- Lack of cooperation between city agencies planning the sewer issues. Long-term vision requires that the current developers and planners have some responsibility for their current planning. If there is no future responsibility for individuals, decisions may be made to maximize current income in lieu of future functionality.
- Downtown revitalization is going nowhere. Landlords should be compelled to improve bldgs. Keep them repaired and up to date.
- Avoiding Sprawl. Enhancing downtown revitalization.
- Traffic flow, pollution & litter.
- Deterioration of schools, school music programs, socioeconomic gaps in population, diversification of economy (new clear energy)
- Enough schools in areas of growth – traffic flow from one side of town to the other.
- Not enough commercial lots.
- Whoever is in charge of construction take responsibility for promises or concerns made.
- Traffic continuity. Population overgrowing facilities.

- The problem between City of Ammon vs. City of Idaho Falls. Ammon is growing dramatically, however, city government is not able to manage the growth.
- Need more traffic capacity from Ammon to the west side.
- Traffic/crime.
- Lack of parking in established areas.
- West side business expansion, Pancheri Overpass, Community events center, places for youth. Outsiders/out of staters changing what we have.
- What is happening to Yellowstone square?
- Traffic on 17th St., large empty stores (old K-Mart).
- Traffic (no more 17th Street messes).
- Too much in Southeast portion of city.
- Outgrow infrastructure, population issues in older districts, traffic.
- Traffic i.e. 17th Street/Hit road.
- We need to build more jails & larger juvenile facility. I know that many times the jails are full and criminals are released due to overcrowding. Need more rehab for juveniles BEFORE they become hard core criminals!
- The planning needs to make sure keep high end homes and businesses separated from the opposite.
- None.
- Too quick of growth.
- Traffic & lack of coordinated traffic lights – everything funnels to 17th. Too many places choke down from 2 lanes to 1 then back to 2 – causes backups. All this uses gasoline needlessly.
- Traffic on 17th. Downtown bldg. façade renovation effort.
- Road off exit 119 into city and sinage.
- Traffic patterns.
- That the downtown will not be developed.
- Lack of quick connections between east and west sides of city. Need more open park spaces.
- Traffic issues on 17th, Sunnyside, Pancheri. Too many apartment complexes going up everywhere.
- Sprawl – build a healthy core of the city & the rest will flow outward. Over saturation of Big Box stores.
- That everything (new business) goes out to Sunnyside & Hitt.
- Sprawl – good ag. Land particularly on Westside being built on. Ultra conservatives & weirdo's in city gov'n't elected positions.
- Downtown area, make it a beautiful place.
- I hate to see billboards block the view of the foothills, e.g. Hitt & Sunnyside.
- Traffic & control.
- Urban sprawl, loss of small town atmosphere. We'll become an older community if there is no university here.
- Road infrastructure/traffic flow.

- Reclaiming population that has migrated to the east (Ammon - ?) They consume city services but don't pay for all they consume.
- I hope to see more growth, better streets, lower smarter taxing. I personally think we need attractions bringing outside money!
- Development for the sake of beauty – not cookie cutter homes! Hiway access to all sides of town. Development of empty downtown! Try again for Rec. Center.
- Taylor Crossing – professional development with industrial development.
- Traffic!
- I'd love to see businesses move into areas that are not already chaotic. Also, there are many parts of the city that have been landscaped beautifully but many other main streets and businesses look run down, especially when you're entering the city. Those areas should be kept up.
- Need to have a safe fun place for teenagers to go on Fri & Sat nights. When they are bored they find trouble. Either expand YMCA or build new facility w/basketball, skateboard, indoor & outdoor place to hang out and be safe.
- Too fast of growth with out planning.
- Constant improvement/progression is vital.
- That at the expense of the new the older sections will become more stagnant, ie. Northgate, Downtown, 1st St.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS (One Response Please)?

- Taylor Crossing.
- Greenbelt.
- Tauphaus Park!
- Community Park.
- Greenbelt along river and the future growth of the business building there.
- Falls side of the river.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- Downtown core.
- Art museum.
- Forebay on the greenbelt.
- Zoo.
- Farmers Market.
- Civic Auditorium.
- Zoo.
- Freeman Park.
- River/Temple area.
- Greenbelt.
- High ground-west of town-great views.

- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt.
- River.
- Greenbelt.
- Downtown.
- Greenbelt and public facilities (Edward's Theater, libraries).
- My back yard.
- Community Park (quit stealing the trees there).
- In the trees by the Falls!
- Museum of Idaho.
- Along the River – the Green Belt.
- The River walk – Greenbelt.
- Downtown.
- Toutphus Park.
- The greenbelt including Freeman Park.
- Greenbelt/River.
- Summer – golf courses.
- River.
- Hitt & Sunnyside/25th (no more billboards!)
- Green Belt & Falls.
- Tautphaus Park.
- Teaphaus Park.
- Parks.
- Most restaurants around the river.
- Greenbelt.
- Snake River Greenbelt.
- Downtown/Greenbelt area.
- Tauphus Park area – South Blvd.
- The River and the Greenbelt.
- Taylor Crossing.
- None. No single space encompasses all facets of multi-use to create a sense of space.

Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE)
May 19, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Greenbelt, the parks & zoo.
- Compared to what.
- Being a modern city with good future for development.
- The river and falls with the accompanying beautification (Greenbelt). Low crime rate – excellent place to live and feel safe.
- Greenbelt – Parks – Golf courses.
- Greenbelt, summer concerts, summer flower gardens, park system, Colonial theater.
- Idaho Falls is a safe place to live – There is a diversity of culture and interests. You can find most any kind of entertainment you would want to enjoy. Idaho Falls is also a friendly place to live.
- Progressive, clean, lots of trees, good hospitals.
- Excellent shopping, excellent airport, quality housing, world class golf courses.
- Multiple stores like Sams, Walmart, Home Depot, Lowes.
- Garden areas.
- Parks, green belt, and general cleanness.
- Parks and recreation areas including McDermott Field, Tauphaus Park, the zoo. The way of life & cost of living. Clean and nice place to live.

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- The amount of cars on 17th.
- Traffic.
- Too fast a growth.
- Traffic problems on major arterials.
- Downtown area – parking, old structures, etc.
- Maintenance & canal bank system.
- Idaho Falls has a newspaper that continually tries to divide the cultures one against another and is very bias in its reporting. Idaho Falls should rise above this.
- Deteriorated downtown, street surfaces, a lot of unattractive lots.
- Heavy traffic on major streets, i.e. 17th.
- Eastside sprawl down 17th St. Dead areas on Northside. Lack of diverse shopping on Westside. Downtown businesses failure to prevent decay. Too expensive parking at airport.
- Speculative utilities and street repairs.
- Traffic pattern & traffic flow – namely 17th St.

WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY?

- None
- Growing too fast.
- None other than growing past my property in the country.
- Suburban growth outside Idaho Falls.
- Traffic congestion because of roads; planning, bridges, etc.
- Pockets of development. Lack of coordination of common usage of public access with City of Ammon & lack of comm.. planning.
- Growing faster than facilities can keep up.
- Too many empty buildings.
- To have citizen committees serve as advisory boards to city officials.
- If I lived here, I would be concerned about infrastructure, sewers, availability of water, roads.
- Taking care of the worst features above.
- Traffic flows and taxes.
- Being able to control traffic & allow it to flow freely. Provide cooperation between Ammon, Bonneville County & Idaho Falls – to provide growth in a controlled manner so all 3 groups can benefit.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS (One Response Please)?

- Zoo and home.
- Do not have one.
- Don't have one since I live outside Idaho Falls.
- The green belt along the river.
- Golf course.
- Walking the belt way around the river.
- City park system.
- Eastside.
- Sams or Walmart.
- Community Park.
- Green belt.
- Green Belt – Tauphaus Park.

Joy of Subdivison
March 5, 2005

WHAT ARE THE BEST FEATURES OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS?

- Green Belt project.
- Greenbelt
- The River
- Greenbelt along the falls area.
- Good question. Commonly referred to as Idiot Flats.
- Not Walmart in double! Walmart may bring surrounding people to town but it cuts the throat or puts out of business most small businesses of competition who have worked years to establish themselves. Then provided only jobs at low income rather making many more people dependent on the local government for support programs.
- Greenbelt
- Greenbelt
- Greenway around river.
- It is 30 miles from Rexburg. River walk.
- Greenbelt along river.
- Greenbelt, Arts Council activities, museum.
- Schools, library.
- Shopping, restaurants, theaters.
- 4 exits out.
- Community recreation areas.
- Motel acc., food est.
- The falls & greenbelt & dinner restaurants.
- Diversity of entertainment, shopping and small businesses.
- The aspect of how you incorporate the River.
- Riverside Drive, ER Art Museum, Zoo, Packet Parks in old Town
- New construction and growth have been well handled.
- I love the downtown and the new development that the walkers are involved in along the river.
- Good access to shopping on 17th St. Good access from North to new WalMart, RoundABOUTs.
- Beautiful new walk and scenery along river. Great Greenbelt. Good shopping facilities.
- Parks, Riverfronts, walk paths, I-15, US-20 access.
- The variety of stores & shopping that available.
- Commerce – shopping, library, worth of homes & lots, building department.
- Diverse service available, clean well-maintained.
- Greenbelt, motel corridor is developing well.
- Clean, revitalization of areas.

- Great renovations in downtown area. It's not vacant and dead. Cultural events (places and events), museums & the zoo. The localization of medical service's offices.
- Mall areas located outskirts of old town, new growth in outer areas – hospitals located around other doctors & similar practices. Theater locations.
- Hospitals, health care, Walmart on Utah.
- Most of shopping is convenient for same place (area), shopping for people from out of town. Residential seems to put in the right direction.
- River, parks, downtown revitalization, older neighborhoods.
- Love the shopping, eating, Paramount Theater, theaters.
- Your park, street connectivity.
- Lots of diversity in business.
- My wife and family live here – the Temple, the mall, Edwards Cinemas.
- LDS Temple and ease of location, concentrated shopping. Variety of entertainment/shopping, no smoking in many business/establishments.
- The many services available that seem unavailable in the upper Valley.
- Shopping, restaurants, medical professionals, cleanliness.
- Shopping, entertainment.
- The riverfront park area is very desirable, the temple is beautiful, closeness to Yellowstone & Grant Teton.
- Ease of driving around city, good govt.
- Developing of business (fast food) on West Broadway. Revitalizing of Westside.
- Big box retail, library, Greenbelt.
- The River – open space, shopping facilities.
- Area shopping, River/walkway.
- Parks & bike trails on greenbelt. Your real attempts to move traffic. Library.
- Ammon is just next door! (just kidding) You provide good services to residences. Good library – could we build a branch library in Ammon?
- Visitors info is readily accessible. Shopping & commercial locations easy to find.
- Almost every thing. That's why we fought for 5 years to land employment in this area.
- There appears to be good standards in central new development.
- Industry kept somewhat congregated together on west side of town by freeway.
- Beautiful Greenbelt area and motel district. Good access to ag. & industrial. You have some very nice residential areas.
- I enjoy the landscaping as you come on or go off the interstate. Also the greenbelt along the river. I like the new Wal Mart along the freeway. Encourage more restaurants on this side (West) of the river.

- Visitors Center – excellent, museum, Greenbelt, lots of services – good competition, access from I-15, for visitors.
- Convenient access to airport services but not always as affordable as flying out of Salt Lake City. Availability of “Big Box” shopping outside of our rural community (you can keep it here).
- Downtown – but under utilized. I love downtown areas – Red Bank NJ, Spring Lake, New Jersey.
- Temple, Riverside Drive.
- Shopping centers.
- River & Falls, shopping centers, Temple, Green Belt, parks.
- The greenbelt along the river. City parks and all the trees & flower plots. Airport.
- IF has some great parks, services and shopping. Arts, as in concerts, plays and such are good. Overall the city has some good features and we come here to “The Big City” from Driggs quite often.
- Great diversity. Variety of services.
- One way streets downtown, greenbelt, cleanliness of greenbelt & downtown 1 way streets.
- Space left open & available along the River (Green Belt)

WHAT ARE THE WORST FEATURES?

- 17th Street and the new roundabouts.
- 17th Street (not the street the whole mess). Huge parking lots with no trees or landscaping.
- Streets not straight at intersections (Holmes & 19th). Schools zone (classrooms) across main streets.
- Poor signage, poor road markings, poor road surfaces, poor finishing of road r-o-w areas.
- Old downtown streets/parking, fast food in old downtown not available or if available not advertised well enough as to location.
- Medical facilities – large shopping areas on 17th St., were poor accessible planning. I avoid Idaho Falls medical facilities. I would rather drive to Rexburg, Blackfoot, Pocatello.
- I’ve enjoyed Idaho Falls for 58 years. I suppose its worst feature is possibly it’s commercial sprawl for services, i.e. Downtown vs. The mall, etc.
- Roads & traffic.
- Traffic around the shopping centers.
- Sunnyside Drive & 17th Street, traffic congestion.
- Entrance to town from the north on state 20 – the back of buildings, i.e., Orman Builders, meat smoking place – needs a buffer to highway traffic.
- Traffic getting to shopping areas. Most of the industrial or shopping areas all towards the south of the city.

- Retail move away from the downtown area. Good home improvement outlets.
- Downtown parking, streets narrow.
- Traffic, public transportation, layout of roads.
- Streets have roundabouts poorly designed. Need to start from city center and shopping areas and widen out.
- 17th Street.
- Traffic
- Need more entertainment venues.
- 17th St. traffic.
- Traffic on 17th Street and lack of an I-15 exit to Panchari.
- 17th Street! What a nightmare.
- 17th Street, Wal Mart(s), sprawl, council room too small.
- Don't know enough about the city.
- I would like the transportation in your shopping areas to be addressed.
- Roads are difficult to find your way around if you are not familiar with them – also they are often very narrow.
- Hospital access, 17th Street/Ammon development & access, placement at Lowes/Sam's/Home Depot.
- The congestion on 17th & Sunnyside. The loss of commerce on the North side of the city, Anderson St. & Lincoln.
- Difficulty of library cards, taxes to up, lack of Mayers office to listen.
- Traffic, restaurants.
- Changes in the names of streets, railroads through town, city has poor visual image from interstate.
- 17th St., Sunnyside, traffic.
- Bad traffic on 17th going as far East as Ammon (I think). Street names changes in a strange fashion – outsiders are left wondering.
- Streets & routes downtown, parking.
- Access to health care and shopping from I-15.
- Roads are confusing. Roads going between IF & Ammon need immediate attention.
- Commercial sprawl, decaying downtown, low walkability/alternative transportation.
- Outdoor business storage, winter road keep up, side roads, signage – Its all over.
- Signage, streetscape – there is none, downtown area seems abandoned.
- Roads and access to cross town shopping.
- Need to widen Sunnyside Rd. including arterial roads feeding 17th St. and Hitt Rd. Great idea to get Sunnyside to I-15.
- One way streets, concentrated shopping, no quick hospital access from the North, some poor "no-smoking" sections in establishments.
- Traffic arteries and control in medical corridor – access.
- Congestion on 17th St., junky businesses on Highway 20 North of city.

- Transportation planning (arteries, access), growth planning based on existing transportation access, impression of I.F. from freeway.
- Government entities spread out. Need to face lift on old town bldgs.
- Know none.
- Spot widening of Hitt Road. Lack of light leaving Target.
- Lack of parking downtown. Not enough traffic lights.
- ?? I don't know I.F. that well.
- Sprawl into Ag. Areas, Riverfront development.
- Roads – poor condition.
- 17th St. Loss of downtown.
- One way roads. We stay away from downtown because of parking hardships.
- One way streets.
- The annexation fees are too high. Too much growth is pushed to the county and Ammon which otherwise would have occurred in I.F. Too lenient with billboards. Cell towers look better with one set of antennas! (co-location is uglier!)
- The city commercial
- Not really incorporating or annexing rapid growth areas adjacent to the city and providing city sewer and water. I am concerned with high density areas that use septic systems. I am also concerned with industrial areas on septic systems.
- Driving to the Ammon area thru town – down 17th to a major shopping center – the major shopping area is poorly located for shoppers from the North – need a better beltway for traffic.
- Going down 17th to the hospital & doctors offices – also the traffic is congested on 17th.
- 17th Street congestion – some other streets also bad. Effect on nearby small towns – killing small business. Problems caused by 91 & railroad cutting diagonally thru town.
- Congestion around the major shopping areas. Lack of continuity/centralization – sprawl of the city.
- Small roundabouts – haven't you ever seen a "real" one. 17th Street traffic flow.
- 17th Street (nightmare!). Need beltway or additional highway toward Ammon. Revitalization of downtown (? & Constitution).
- Traffic.
- 17th Street. No easy way to get from one side to another. Cattle yard in town. Roundabouts – I have been nearly run over several times.
- The 17th Street corridor and commercial congestion. Entrances to the city are not very attractive and do not reflect the actual beauty of the city.
- The traffic flow on 17th Street and from 17th toward the Edwards Cinemas should be improved.

- Very poor arterial routes to access various parts of the city. 17th St. is very congested. Hitt Rd. is not developed. Woodruff has a major bottleneck where it narrows to 2 lanes. Idaho Falls needs more major routes for faster movement from one side of town to the other. Development seems to be developer oriented not function oriented. Planning should be done from city benefit standpoint not profitability to developers.
- Driving down East 17th Street between Hitt Road and Holmes (synchronize lights). Lack of traffic light on Hitt Road between 17th Street & Sunnyside with all of new commercial development on both sides of the street. Litter out of Hitt Rd. coming in from Hwy 26/gets dirtier after you cross 1st and get toward Walmart & EIT. 17th St. is filthy w/all of the fast food places.

City of Idaho Falls Zoo
July 16, 2005

Concept Map

What do you see as the most positive features on the map?

- Increase funding for city street maintenance.
- Extend Greenbelt. Plant trees and flowers on entrance ways. Homeless people relocation.
- Neighborhoods, Greenbelt mixed uses, parks.
- Greenbelt, Parks & Rec.
- Making park cleaner.
- I am more interested in a better ice rink for kids and a better roller rink for kids.
- More parks in residential areas, underground or hi-rise parking downtown.
- Downtown & Greenbelt mixes uses, employment centers.
- Not familiar with town yet.
- Division of area use.
- It looks like industrial areas are kept in spots where it should be extending the greenbelt good idea.
- The manner in which the various use area are broken apart and shown.
- Park and recreation areas – places where all the community can come together.
- The Greenbelt & downtown.
- I like “green communities” and think we have some great parks. I think more trees would be appropriate at some (Sunnyside & Community).
- Cultural & museum district with entertainment, arts & specialty stores. Along with parks and lower density areas.
- Commercial and residential areas expanding north.
- Employment centers.
- Regional commercial businesses promote growth.
- Parks, regional commercial, greenbelt.
- Development within city limits.
- Park areas along river.
- Would like to see more park and rec. south of town (beyond Sunnyside). Check out Middletown, N.J. as example of farm/ranches that have been donated to the city for park rec. development and preservation. Hope that the beautiful flowers and park maintenance continue. Would like to see the development of light industrial and not heavy. Also, given the regional position – medical and retail should continue to be encouraged which also contributes to the tax base.
- Wonderful use of the river as a strong feature of the city.
- Having new commercial development near major highways.
- Reducing 17th Street.
- I like better traffic access for ex. put 49th S. Through St. Hwy 91.

- Extended Green Belt.
- A lot of progress for the city like parks & city street maintenance.
- Land use on major roads, employment centers.
- Parks, river development, higher education.
- I like the fact that they are trying to develop more employment centers, and I also like the idea of moving industrial areas away from the populace.
- Develop downtown area, build more parks, develop Greenbelt, control sprawl-create a plan and follow it.
- The people
- Employment centers to give people more jobs.
- People are trying to make the town look nice and help things be convenient for people.
- Land use designation, too complicated.
- I like how downtown is a cultural museum district and the parks. It's nice that the walkways with paths and parks.
- Low density.
- Snake River, low density areas, parks, Higher Ed. Cntr.
- Lots of low density neighborhoods.
- I really like the greenbelt and parks and rec.
- Great planning having our mixed use areas around greenbelt/keeping high density in right areas.
- Parks.
- I think that the parks are the most positive.
- Extend Greenbelt, bike & walking paths.
- Employment centers.
- Beautifying downtown, redevelop vacant buildings & deteriorated commercial areas, build new parks in areas where new homes are being built.
- Our parks and natural attractions.
- Parks (not from here).
- You're involving the community.
- Extend greenbelt, fund buildings to rehabilitate downtown, reduce congestion on 17th Street, higher education & employment, street maintenance.
- Low Density.
- Planned transition.
- Develop downtown area, build more parks, develop Greenbelt.
- Lots of low density areas.
- It's hard to read.
- Land use on major roads, regional commercial, interchange at York Road, better access to downtown (17th St.)
- Build more parks, develop Greenbelt, develop downtown.
- Lots of low density areas.

- More parks in residential areas.
- Need Medical Services Center, Greenbelt mixed uses, Parks & Rec., public facilities.
- Greenbelt, downtown.
- Continued improvement for the city keeping up and improving existing services.
- Division of area use.

Is there anything on this map you would not like to see in the future?

- Need anchor store downtown.
- ? Not from here. It's hard to say!
- Control commercial development.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- No, nothing is too bad.
- Nope.
- No.
- High density.
- No.
- A lot of industrial areas right near downtown.
- More industrial.
- More strip malls or housing or major construction. There is too much traffic with Sunnyside closed. We don't need any more.
- Keep it simple or people will get lost in the color.
- No more commercial lands used for housing.
- Clean up old buildings around town and other areas.
- I'm not so sure we need to concentrate on commercial. I think we should try to get other higher paying jobs into the area. I also think we should keep the greenbelt just the greenbelt.
- Control commercial development of Sunnyside.
- No more commercial land use for housing.
- The limited amount of parks.
- Industrial concentrations.
- More traffic congestion W/growth, 4-6 lane streets, less stops.
- High density housing between Home Depot and Community Park.
- Making a green belt around I.F.
- Rehab for battered women.
- Higher density areas.
- Beltway, rather see light rail project.
- No.
- Keep parks and recreational areas well maintained.
- I'd rather not see industrial areas next to parks & rec. areas.
- No more businesses on 17th.

- No more towering beer plants south of town. Don't make industrial areas so large north & south of town. Much of the industrial areas will have empty areas. Compact industrial areas so a larger area is not impacted – like 2 beer plants south of town should have been placed closer together. By spreading them apart it creates a larger negative impact area. Land values for housing near them plummet. In summary, shrink the industrial areas and use land management better (tighter, more compacted instead of leapfrogging from one place to another.)
- High density agricultural operations like cow/calf on dairy in land outside of city boundaries.
- It would be nice to see a growth in community neighborhood grocers. Or a growth in community transportation – it just seems like the elderly and children whom are unable to drive are stuck at home or as far as they can walk/carry their purchases.
- There needs to be a civic center/convention center built in downtown I.F. amongst the hotels to bring in concerts, semi-pro hockey, other sporting events.
- No, it all looks pretty good.
- I would like to see less "empty boxes." It is sad to see areas or pockets where growth has dwindled and is getting run down (i.e. – Fred Meyers, Ernst, etc.). It would be nice to see less urban sprawl – farms are disappearing at an alarming rate. I would like to see more consistency.
- Industrial areas north of Lincoln Road, depending on the types, pollution, noise, etc.
- Regional commercial, neighborhood commercial.
- Offices & research labs, stores & condominiums (they make town look trashy). Believe me I come from a pretty big town. Higher density I unattractive as well.
- Do not annex land or developments that contribute to urban sprawl. Charge a \$5-10,000 builder fee for future parks, roads, schools, fire, utilities. Require all new housing to get electricity from other than I.F. Electric; require new housing to put in water meters & charge them real rates (Pocatello)!
- Industrial development along the river south of town.
- Hitt Road should be named after a pioneer family and not 25th East – too many get the numbers confused.
- No, positive is always good.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- No more businesses on 17th.

Additional Comments

- Thanks

- Please remember the proper role of government is to protect rights. Cities in particular need to focus on public necessities. Providing for cultural and entertainment wants is secondary at best and inappropriate at worst.
- Improve roads in general; that would help with traffic & the look of the town.
- I like the development McNeil is putting in along the river. I am glad to see they are doing more than building buildings and including ponds & fountains. I hope they are maintained in the future. PLEASE – DON'T TEAR DOWN THE ARMY STORE - It has SO much potential.
- I would really like to see older homes & buildings in Idaho Falls become nice again & preserved as much as possible.
- Need to build a civic/convention center.
- Thanks for thinking ahead for us. We appreciate your time!
- Need to provide better E-W routes in town across River and I-15. Need to build up recreation offerings along river – parks, picnic areas, swimming areas and fishing ponds
- Very important – visitors and travelers use these road – must make good impression. No more Walmarts, especially when a need of more specialty stores downtown. Walmart a culprit in those areas. Suffering & dying trees is a huge factor in downtown or city revitalization – look to Boise for great example. Medians have grass & trees instead of having ugly boring cement (like many areas of town.) Need green areas so people have desire to stay in city otherwise flocking to live in rural environment is more inviting. Ideas of closing one (can't read) drive to link downtown is excellent. What a perfect way to invite people downtown. Another area that needs major help is Broadway, especially west of the river – hardly any trees are along the road. It would look so much better if there were trees lining the street. Many visitors use that road. Extending green belt is good idea sought to Clark Road is great idea. In huge vacant parking lots like on Yellowstone plant trees in parking lot to make more inviting for businesses. Stop sprawling businesses in Ammon. Fix what area that is already commercialized. If this doesn't happen then ghetto may result. N. Yellowstone and West Broadway may turn out like that if things don't change (like trees in parking lots and revitalizing businesses & strongly inviting businesses to come to areas already commercialized that's vacant buildings instead of sprawling to Ammon, countryside bringing people to commercial areas in Ammon – bring little need to go to downtown. My aunt is visiting from Utah this weekend. She is around 60 and grew up near Idaho Falls and said when she was young, downtown was the happenin' place. Let's bring that back in full force to downtown I.F. The core is dying. A major revitalization project is needed. Some older buildings with little historical significance need to be torn down and put in nice classy buildings in its place if we want to look like a progressive city.

- Traffic on 17th is horrible. I live in CA. & it is comparable or worse!!
- Ease traffic congestion! Areas I avoid due to heavy traffic – more public bus \$
- We need outlet malls.
- Improve First St. & Hitt Road.
- Provide free, convenient parking downtown.
- Ensure that Ammon contributes properly for all the services I believe that they leach from the City of Idaho Falls.
- Improve 17th traffic flow!!
- Hitt Rd. and 1st St. !!! (Intersection). Hitt Rd. from John Adams north to county 4-lane!! Please!!
- They city is growing wonderfully – would like to see downtown rejuvenated more specialty shops & old commercial buildings redone.
- Idaho Falls is great. Improving the greenbelt along the Snake River is extremely important. The river is beautiful – use it!
- More parks (one near community garden off Hiatt/Adams), bicycle paths – we are way behind Corvallis, Eugene & even Boise.
- Funding for higher education – nursing programs!!
- Reduce property taxes – 50% higher than County is crazy!!
- ALL money should go to schools. What is our most important resource??
- We need some outlet malls.
- Improve intersection at Hitt and 1st. It is scary!
- More money to complete zoo projects.

**City of Idaho Falls Library
July 19, 20, 21, 2005**

Concept Map

What do you see as the most positive features on the map?

- Parks, recreation, medical services.
- Beautify downtown and its entrances.
- The map gives one an idea as to which direction Idaho Falls is heading as far as planning for the future of Idaho Falls.
- More parks – needs more grass, expand city limits, more medical facilities.
- I think the writing around the map is confusing. I am not sure what it is referring to or whether it is what has been done or what has been suggested be done.
- The green belt, downtown, parks.
- Parks & Recreation! Employment centers! Medical services center! Public facility's, open spaces! Estate! Greenbelt mixed uses!
- Mixes uses along Greenbelt.
- The sunnyside interchange.
- 17th St. lessening congestion.
- Parks and areas of recreation, medical services.
- Clustering of medical units (around the hospital) e.g., on Channing.
- Room for higher ed – we need to make this more of a priority!
- I think the most positive was the map of the industrial areas and light industry. Nice parks and a snazzy new downtown are nice but don't do a lot of good when it is so hard to find a job in this town that pays more than \$6.00/hr.
- City maintenance – i.e., roads, sewer, power.
- The increased medical center.
- I appreciate the idea of balance. Everything seems to be at a level that everyone should be able to live with. I, for one, love the small town feeling and I think that these developments will allow growth and progression without creating another New York.
- There are a lot of parks.
- Commercial in the downtown area & along the river. Real estate spread out over entire area. Parks evenly spread out around public facilities.
- Higher education centers.
- Parks & recreation.
- Love extending the Greenbelt – it is a major plus when tourists/new businesses look @ I.F. I like keeping industry on the outskirts of town.
- 1. The funding of programs for rehabilitation of old & historic buildings downtown
- 2. Extension of the Greenbelt & the re-development of older industrial areas along the S.R.
- Green Belt.

- The greenways and parks. The small size.
- Downtown
- I think it is important to encourage the opening of more specialty stores – to spend money keeping downtown Idaho Falls looking nice.
- The future planning for the city.
- Upkeep of parks and roads.
- Maintain utility public services – especially for a growing city. Redevelop older industrial & vacant, deteriorated bldgs, clean up, graffiti removed, rehabilitate downtown.
- I like Sunnyside expansion & desire to help 17th St. Good to have commercial area in same spots, downtown is looking nice.
- Higher education.
- Downtown as a cultural, museum & arts area.
- Medical services center.
- The Greenbelt development and thought towards segregation of zones, re: industrial in specific areas, medical, educational in specific areas.
- Good ideas.
- Employment centers, neighborhood planning.
- Idaho Falls is growing. Transition 17th St. to more user friendly.
- Most of the industrial area is away from residential areas. I like that there is a choice between high density areas & low-density areas – also the high-density cut down on sprawl. I like the parks and open spaces.
- The appearance that the river area will have less industrial and more greenbelt.
- Parks.
- Clean up, redevelop vacant buildings.
- Medical close together in positive location, planned transitions.
- The color coding is easy to understand.
- Land use on major roads. Neighborhoods/neighborhood commercial.
- Neighborhood commercial.
- Parks & recreation aspects for housing areas and schools. Revitalizing downtown. We need more available parking downtown.
- The majority of commercial development is together. It also gives a good estimate of the potential growth of the city.
- Employment centers, regional commercial.
- Helping downtown Idaho Falls look more inviting and useful.
- The River, convention centers.
- Construct roads so it reduces traffic ideas.
- Very colorful, road names easy to recognize.
- Improvement of old bldgs, more parks.
- Greenbelt, parks.
- I think it's very important to beautify downtown and to keep it maintained.
- Improvement of downtown and neighborhood commercial.

- Need to improve roads and the ability to get to areas in town without long waits at stoplights.
- Rehabilitation of old/vacant buildings.
- Easy to read. Bright colors helpful. Pictures add clarity.
- Easy to understand.
- Congestion relief on major city roads.
- Regional commercial, Greenbelt mixed uses, employment centers, downtown, *Lower Density!
- I'm glad to see that there is finally some planning for the future. I come from Southern California and have lived here for 10 years. The planning has been terrible.
- City movement in all directions, developing all areas with balanced mixes of park, resident & business.
- Extend Green Belt, like paths, redevelopment of vacant and run down buildings.
- Quality public service beltway in I.F., park.
- I believe that the green belt is the most positive because it is a place to hang out.
- New neighborhood connected w/paths etc., new parks.
- Still plenty of parks, open areas, wants to revitalize areas that used to be commercial to make them commercial areas again.
- Lower density housing, downtown, parks, regional commercial, higher education centers, open spaces.
- The most positive is more adult school, more program how people want to prepare for better future.
- Need traffic light in front of Target & mall, housing rehabilitation.
- Lot of low density housing.
- Build new parks, funding programs to clean-up older residential neighborhoods.
- Build new parks, fund program to clean up neighborhoods.
- Growth and development of business – and infrastructure.
- 17th Street congestion, rehabilitate old buildings.
- Greenbelt.
- Parks and recreation.
- Retail, commercial, employment into living areas.
- Never saw projected growth map before.
- Easy way to see some of the needs of the city.
- Improving & updating downtown, extending greenbelt.
- Employment centers, downtown/Greenbelt, higher density houses that have mandatory parks with them, neighborhood commercial.
- Around the green belt make some parks and recreation and linking it to Gem Lake.
- There is a lot of low density housing.
- New parks, greenbelt, land use on major roads.

- Commercial (retail office), green belt, parks recreation.
- Idaho Falls is growing very fast but mostly in the Ammon area. Make the best of what you have now.
- Show a lot of wasted space.
- More parks for young people, more medical services, more employment centers.
- Areas for family – development of Greenbelt and parks (include parents in planning and development of park).
- Clustering of employment locations near good roads, transition on lower 17th St.
- Developing parks & rec facilities.
- Color codes which concretely designate what types of housing, public facilities, etc.
- Still lots of low density.
- To fund programs that will allow for cleaning up neighborhoods such as housing re-hab & graffiti removal as mentioned on the board. It would be really cool if you could stop graffiti & vandalism before it happens.
- Plenty of industrial.
- All the different ideas.
- Everything represented would be a good eventual change. I think there is a need for both high and low density housing.
- Well thought out and planned community.
- Schools are present.
- Developing bike and walking paths.
- Employment centers, neighborhoods, parks in new housing.
- Future plans.
- Greenbelt mixes uses.
- Greenbelt, low density.
- Update downtown, bring in more business, keep it alive after 5, other downtown activities.
- Neighborhoods.
- Greenbelt, downtown.
- Beautify downtown.
- Just the idea of you asking for citizen input and that I.F. is actually thinking about planning – WOW!
- Greenbelt & parks.
- Expanded higher education opportunities, nice mix of high, low density housing, interesting to see anticipated N & S development, like seeing parks, open space

Is there anything on this map you would not like to see in the future?

- No.
- No.
- Not really.

- New parks.
- No.
- Not really.
- No everything is cool and would help Idaho, Falls.
- No.
- The beltway is not important to me, but I'm just a visitor at the moment. I think it be confusing to me traveling wise.
- More estate.
- Designate such as in low density areas where projected growth is expected in the next 1-5 years – such as rapid growth prediction.
- As much planned transition.
- Need higher density scattered more to protect ghettoization.
- Too many businesses/less open farming land.
- The industrial, the high density neighborhoods.
- Add recreational center where children can swim w/o freezing and play in a safe environment – perhaps include in development of Greenbelt.
- More housing & more business construction.
- A public shooting range, long range, short, clay, sport, etc.
- More employment and business opportunities.
- No.
- Reduce industrial along the river, exchange that property for housing, public use and recreation. Also, don't lose your old downtown to mall areas. Keep the old town character.
- No.
- Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17th St.
- Not sure about neighborhood commercial but might be ok. Regional commercial – no.
- No!
- Industry concentrated near the river south of town.
- No.
- Encroachment onto productive farm land south of Sunnyside Road. Also concentrate industrial areas in one part of the city and make a viable buffer zone around them (parks, commercial).
- No more greenbelt, we have enough.
- 80,000 people living in Idaho Falls.
- Higher density housing!
- Personally I'd be happy if Idaho Falls never saw another huge chain store shopping congesting up traffic and running small businesses out.
- New signs etc. – beautify downtown and entrances.
- The bigger parks. We don't need them. That's what the mountains are for.
- Nothing in particular on the map, though I don't want to see Idaho Falls become overrun with industry, or any other single part. Even the low-

density residential areas might cause over-population in single areas. The balance in my mind is most important.

- Get more medical service centers.
- Enough with the greenbelt already.
- Education bunched closely together. The greenbelt mixed uses seem to be only on one side.
- Taking away of more farm land.
- None.
- Do not want to see Bellin Road connect onto the Sunnyside Interchange!!!
- Industrial close to the city.
- No.
- There is too much high density housing being built. Also, there should be a stricter building code. All new housing should be energy wise. This city is way too dependent on the auto. Make it more bike and walker friendly. There could be a need for another library.
- NO more development on 17th!
- Not as many townhouses & apartments.
- 17th 2 way changing 1 way. Streets change names for no reason.
- I'm not really in favor of having a beltway around Idaho Falls.
- More parks areas & less industrial areas in the city.
- The beltway doesn't seem quite as logical to me because it isn't very high priority.
- Boise downtown, management & development at their downtown would be a good example – hopefully I.F. won't take 12-15 years to develop a positive & lively downtown like Boise.
- Development on Sunnyside and Ammon Road. Other end of 17th Street.
- Less deterioration of downtown.
- No.
- Nope.
- No specific comment.
- Further expansion of greenbelt.
- More commercial activity that would cause more traffic.
- So much expansion towards the City of Ammon. Move people from high density to low density populations, or start building up those areas to distribute the people better.
- I don't like the neighborhood commercial section (I wouldn't want to live near a parking lot).
- No provision for expanding traffic (beltway).
- Just more parks for our children.
- No, I like them all.
- There are no major landmarks easily recognizable. It would be nice to see major sites on the map that people can identify locations.
- More bldgs in downtown. Don't expand, just improve on existing.
- No.

- No.
- No.
- No.
- No suggestions.
- Extension to X 113.
- Encourage retail near existing & new residential, connect retail center with better roads, encourage higher paying commercial development.
- Everything is great.
- No.
- Higher density.
- Building and repair the deteriorated commercial area, plant tree and flower program to clean the city, extend the Snake River.
- Give Walmart same taxes as other businesses & penalize if they leave empty buildings when they want to upgrade – hurts our city.
- A beltway around Idaho Falls.
- Fund projects to reduce congestion on 17th.
- More golf courses.
- Up pop and houses, less apts & up single homes.
- Expansion past 35th West.

Additional Comments

- Land at Carmel and Skyline (vacant ground) would be perfect place for a park. Large number of kids in neighborhood.
- No comment.
- Plan for a community center which would have a kid's swimming pool with slides and moving water and facilities for reasonable priced arts and crafts (\$10 - \$15 a child is too much for several children). Increase greenbelt so races and activities would draw more people here.
- I would like to see more parks with huge trees and beautiful flowers. I would also like to see more expansion in schools.
- Improve the intersection on 1st and Hit Road – It is terrible during certain times of the day, especially when you're turning left off Hit to 1st Street.
- Parks and bicycle paths are critical needs – they help allow people to be together. Bicycles reduce pollution and are for all generations.
- Redirect cross-town traffic (EW) to lessen 17th traffic, improve NS cross-town routes.
- Major construction after new homes have been built is a bad idea, Sunnyside is a good example, it should have been expanded years ago.
- Tautphaus Park has a very bad flow problem. Can't walk through without backtracking all the time.
- We need to attract more business and companies to provide higher pay.
- This stuff is good.
- Everything is a positive way to help Idaho Falls.

- I would like to see bike paths all over town (all well marked to protect bikers).
- Horse pollution – please address it. Loud vehicles, barking dogs – fireworks (it's a war zone in this city a month every year). Vehicle traffic from the freeway – can it be screened? Backup beepers (there's got to be another way) - & the LAB should find it. Construction noise – builders should not be allowed to build 24 hrs/day.
- I would really like less growth the smaller the better.
- Please, open the library on Sunday.
- Hold fundraiser to help add new animals to the zoo!
- I would like to see a swimming pool like Ross Park in Pocatello, even now! (indoor or outdoor or both).
- Please, no more public housing by schools.
- I would gladly pay more taxes to see actual improvements to the city.
- Bike lanes etc. are not recreational since gas prices are so high – A good alternative between town and its residential areas.
- Improve the traffic lights at intersection of 1st Street & Holmes. N & S bound traffic is fine, but someone is going to get killed trying to make a left turn onto Holmes from west bound 1st St.
- Idaho Falls is very beautiful! There's not really anything that I would like to be replaced but to see that the city adding! Not removing or changing! Thanks.
- Fix up parking area for the Greenbelt area and I think Idaho Falls is doing real great.
- I don't believe this city needs to have a pretty park with flowers and a playground for every new subdivision that pops up. And although I enjoy museums and most of the fine arts, I don't think they're more important to a city than the ability of its citizens to find a good paying job. I don't think we should spend so much time and money making the city pretty for tourists and we should focus on bringing jobs to the area.
- Lights on 17th are ill timed. If you hit it right you can get all green if not you're frustrated and stuck. * Function is a bit more important than silly flowers. Do a bit beautifying but it shouldn't be the main focus . . .
- Looks good – good luck.
- There are many things that need to be accomplished. Some are important and others are even more important. We need to start with immediate needs like transportation. Beautifying and neighborhood improvement are also necessary. This is the 1st step.
- Have more construction plans in Idaho Falls.
- You want kids to keep out of trouble build them a "decent" not the one the city reluctantly built at Tauphus – skate park make the aquatic center cheaper – we subsidize Sandy Downs & the Civic lets keep kids stuff reasonable so they can be utilized.

- Bigger roundabouts and more instruction for those who don't know how to use them.
- We need to keep our farms and farming land. Idaho is beautiful the way it is. Idaho Falls doesn't need to turn into a "big city" & trouble.
- Need to offer more city/county sponsored play groups for families w/ little kids (should be free of charge). Focus on strengthening the family!
- Need to grade dirt alleyways more than once every 5 years. Crown of roads is too high – take out tailpipes.
- Please fix, repair and maintain the war memorial @ the Greenbelt. It's a very big part of my life!! The AT gun also has a flat!!
- Was given only eight \$10 bills, not ten. Chose only four of the above projects.
- Wintertime use on I-15 overpass is dangerous – I avoid it at all times, even if it takes me extra time to do so – Traffic issues on 17th are being addressed, and this needs to continue – Extra/new parks around new developments need to be funded partially by the developers.
- 1. Encourage adaptive use of older buildings throughout the city. 2. Create better park design & avoid the "soccer field as a park mentality."
- I feel 17th needs help now to keep the development in town growing. It will also help police & fire if there is less accidents to respond to on this street.
- Add curbside recycling program.
- We have lived in Idaho Falls only three years but have been very impressed with the cultural and recreational opportunities – especially for children.
- Tautpahus Park Funland could be a great project for expansion as well as the zoo.
- Judging from how much traffic control & roads become in larger cities, I do think this a priority for our growing city.
- Water is important, get rid of Mayor Milam.
- City should look nicer when you come off I-15. Plant shrubs or something.
- Stop signs needed @ Constitution & Park, Constitution & Shoup.
- City needs a hockey (ice center), spend money on something besides golf & softball/baseball.
- A 2nd library on Westside.
- More centers (in addition to the library) that offer Internet services.
- To have so one or somebody to get rid of the old buildings or building around the old Fred Myers build or try find a way to use them.
- Parking downtown.
- Very important to repair/maintain Veteran's Memorial on Greenbelt. Do not let veterans be represented by junk.
- Use & renovate old first instead of always building new.

- For future, need a good police force. Help elderly, mowing grass, shoveling sidewalks – use volunteer program with youth. Also use volunteer programs to help youth set goals for future.
- Preservation to attract tourists – clean industry.
- More funds go to helping the homeless & low income families.
- You should build a parking garage for area around DMV/Courthouse & take the parking slots out of memorial for better travel on this road.
- Ice skating rink year round.
- Improve intersection at 17th and Ammon.
- Improve corner of Hitt & 1st Street. Need turning lane onto 1st Street from Hitt Road.

Farmer's Market July 23, 2005

Concept Map

What do you see as the most positive features on the map?

- Combining neighborhoods with bike and walking paths. Stop developing just the 17/25 Street areas. Spread the wealth.
- Bike paths to link homes & businesses – that's what is hard w/high gas prices there isn't stores close enough to homes to just get to.
- That parks, paths, and open spaces are considered part of new housing developments.
- Land use on major roads.
- Clean up of older neighborhoods, clean up of vacant lots – make landowners responsible!
- Greenbelt, older section – buildings, recreational areas – parks, golf courses.
- Downtown needs to encourage specialty stores increase foot traffic. A specialty grocery store (gourmet or co-op).
- Rehabilitate downtown. Focus on keeping infrastructure maintained. Redevelop industrial areas @ Snake River. Work on Memorial & Broadway – eliminate parking – add median!
- Several employment centers, large park/recreation areas.
- Greenbelt along Snake – great opportunity for attracting tourists.
- Look like you are trying to do good.
- Greenbelt mixed uses, parks, recreation.
- Open dialogue & make us aware of possibilities.
- Fund programs to clean-up, construct major roads.
- Construction of major roads and older parts of town to make Idaho Falls more appealing to tourists.
- Making the downtown area more viable for retailers & limit offices to second stories – neighborhood commercial areas – employment centers.
- Lower density neighborhoods with local shopping and employment centers.
- The construction of beltway, beautify downtown and entrance.
- 1) Development of regional commercial areas at major interchange distant from 17th & Hitt Rd. 2) Expansion of greenbelt concept & recreational opportunities such as biking & walking (NOT funding health clubs/rec clubs). 3) Continue to attract small businesses & arts to downtown area.
- I would like to see more rehabilitation projects throughout the city. If it is not feasible, get rid of vacant, deteriorating building. Anything to ease 17th St. is a plus!

- 1) Construct major roads w/construct of new homes! 2) Cleanup-spring clean older neighborhoods. 3) Trees & flowers instead of storage on entrance ways. 4) Synchronize all traffic lights. 5) Extend green belt.
- Greenbelt development.
- Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls.
- Beltway around Idaho Falls, reduce congestion 17th Street, redevelop vacant buildings, redevelop older industrial area, spring cleanup.
- The Green Belt, encourage in-fill in downtown area.
- Greenbelt, 17th St. congestion, parks, major roads, beltway, bike & walk paths, city streets, maintain public taxes.
- Redevelop vacant buildings, fund programs to rehabilitate old buildings.
- Greenbelt & parks.
- The green belt expansion, new parks, public open spaces.
- Great idea. Thanks for requesting input – Let's get more bike trails in town & expand Greenbelt.
- Clean up of industrial on the river. Re-visit the Pancheri interchange with I-15, parks, Hiway entrance beautified I-15 & 20, commercial on Sunnyside interchange.
- Parks, open areas, historic homes, historic downtown.
- Neighbor commercial.
- Continuation of Greenbelt Park to Gem Lake, growth of higher education areas, continuation & expansion of medical facilities, keeping to most of IF low density housing.
- That a plan is being developed to accommodate growth including traffic & recreation.
- Easily read.

Is there anything on this map you would not like to see in the future?

- Trees should be planted everywhere.
- High density town houses.
- Fix our streets before spending more money on the greenbelt.
- Convention center, youth programs – run by rec programs in city parks or schools.
- Too many subdivisions – sprawl.
- Less development without sidewalks. Sidewalks are important to vibrant neighborhoods. Require developers to pay for them.
- Too much industrial area.
- Keep industrial areas on Fringes of main town.
- Clean up the weeds & RR Building for Amtrak passengers (something pretty to look at and something for them to do). Build more restrooms & maintain them in parks (Freeman Park).
- Recreational facilities – esp. year-round ice rink.
- Parking garage downtown.
- No.

- No.
- Beltway around I.F. may deter business.
- Very strict planning & zoning.
- Traffic congestion on 17th needs attention. Don't know what the "transition plan" for 17th (i.e. the "pink" areas) but think location of businesses along 17th should be discouraged until 17th can be widened significantly.
- All good ideas – need to prioritize & find best need for development.
- I would like to see the developer build the park & pathway – in the master plan. Before the build the house and no more apartment in Idaho Falls.
- 1) More efficient use of tax moneys – cost are higher here than Austin, Tx. 2) Listen more to residents ideas & complaints.
- Construct beltways around Idaho Falls.
- Recreation phacility.
- City wide curbside recycling program. Improve bus system for more routes & regular stops.
- Regional commercial – too many Walmarts already – no need for neighborhood commercial.
- Property tax reduction.

Additional Comments

- More parks on West and North parts of town. Currently, kids cannot travel from West Pacheri to east Pacheri without going over a dangerous narrow overpass, or traveling busy Broadway/I-15 area.
- Improvements of the city is good but with growing population you also need to expand law enforcement before things bad happen to compensate a big population.
- Thanks for doing this!
- Great ideas!
- Landscaping around parking lots are fine but take planters out of interior of parking lots.
- Construct a parking garage – levels.
- Encourage foot traffic downtown.
- Downtown is the heart of IF. City should focus resources to help revitalize.
- Good idea!
- Work to develop old downtown to attract tourist \$
- Downtown building rehab. Allow alcohol permits for events in parks.
- Save historical buildings.
- Make a right turn lane from 17th on Hitt Road. Make more left green yields light of turn light.
- Please don't let anyone build so close to the river and greenbelt such as the one near Freeman Park.

- Reroute road between Temple and river. Make this a park. Move road to other side of Temple.
- We need a public outdoor/indoor pool besides needing to join a facility with picnic areas/trees/a place for our kids – they are people too. Thank you.
- Ucon – 315 exit – railroad arm off.
- Great project to get citizen input!

**Eagle Rock Art Guild
51st Annual Sidewalk Art Festival
July 23, 2005**

Concept Map

What do you see as the most positive features on the map?

- Land use on major roads.
- Local parks & Greenbelt.
- Higher education and develop downtown – Downtown NEEDS PARKING!
- Mostly low density in housing. New parks coming to grow w/community. The Greenbelt is not disturbed.
- 1) The fact that you've produced it in the first place! 2) The terminology used in community planning is defined and illustrated. 3) Color coding helps with visualization of concepts.
- Fixing up the downtown area – if we respect it – so will others – if it looks run down – it will only get worse.
- Greenbelt mixed use “connectness” to parks, bike paths – good! I see some areas of “planned transition” – we must be diligent to have proper transition from residential to commercial.
- Green Belt, regional commerce.
- Good work. Thank you. From Tim, 47 year resident.
- Greenbelt mixed use, downtown, employment centers.
- Construct major roads at the same time or before construction of new homes.
- We like the small, hometown atmosphere.
- Rehabilitation & encourage downtown business, beautify them too. Street maintenance.
- Downtown.
- Lower density, parks new, maintain quality public services, construct a beltway around IF, fund program to cleanup.
- The greenbelt – the zoo – most of the entrances into the city.
- Higher education area north of Sci Center Dr. Mixed use greenbelt S. of Pancheri.
- Anything green, anything not too commercial, anything that deals with car nondependence.
- I like the dispersment of the commercial areas.
- The downtown area, employment centers, lots of bike paths, new parks.
- Greenbelt mixed use, extended greenbelt, new park development, planned transition on 17th St.
- Mixture of good features.
- Higher education centers – could same area close/in to downtown? Greenbelt mixes use here?
- It's very colorful! I like the attention to the Greenbelt. Need more public parks.

- Construct a beltway around Idaho Falls.
- High education centers, limiting high density housing to less than 10%, keeping industrial areas away from housing! Extension of Greenbelt, regional commercial.
- I believe it would be the walk ways and clean up of old town.
- Building on adjacent side of river.
- Sell electric system if unable to reduce rates, use fund and investments to reduce tax levy.
- Nice green spaces.
- Parks & recreation, throughout attaching neighborhoods and beautifying Idaho Falls.
- Construct major road before residential or commercial lots are being developed.
- Employment centers.
- Open spaces listed. I like the idea of downtown cultural & museum district & the greenbelt mixed use.
- Greenbelt, better retail/regional commerce.
- Increasing higher education possibilities.
- Lots of low density housing.
- Higher density ideas, downtown refurbishment, greenbelt mixed uses.
- The greenbelt mixed use corridor, higher density in downtown – I'd like to see more housing.
- Greenbelt.
- Greenbelt, plan is looking to future.
- Extend greenbelt.
- Regional commercial, neighborhoods, parks.
- Renovate downtown buildings, extend greenbelt, park maintenance, street and road maintenance, control growth.
- Maintain 'pods' of retail scattered through city – so all residential areas are within walking or biking distance to basic retail-grocery, hardware, etc. Concentrate industrial, no scattered industrial mixed in residential or retail. Greenbelt!
- Congestion on 17th St. Rehab. for old buildings & encourage new bus. & housing downtown.
- Greenbelt, land use on major roads, employment centers, parks.
- Quality water, sewer and so on.
- Greenbelt, parks.
- More rehabilitation of existing structures & parks.
- Expansion of the greenbelt.
- Continue to develop greenbelt & downtown needs (more parking).
- Beltway.
- Land use on major roads. Beautifying downtown & its entrances!
- Creating more parks and making use of old run down areas.
- Beautify downtown and its entrances.

- Major road development at same time as new construction. Redevelopment of older industrial areas. Keeping park areas maintained. They are gems.
- Keep parks clean. Increase funding for city streets, more parks.
- There is a lot of low density home sites. Industrial is on the fringe of city.
- Extend the Greenbelt.
- I see having a downtown & greenbelt area with mixed use would be a definite attraction to locals and tourists alike.
- Shows projected city growth and layout.
- Downtown, parks.
- 17th St. congestion/beltway addition.
- The downtown area is looking much better. The greenbelt is a big draw and needs to be expanded. More residential should be encouraged in the downtown buildings.
- Redeveloping &/or "cleaning up" rundown homes and old businesses.
- Building up of downtown, building new parks, extending greenbelt.
- I like the greenbelt mixed uses. We should take more advantage of its beauty. It's too late to stop 17th Street – but please find a way to make it navigable.
- Neighborhood commercial, parks.
- Re-vitalize downtown, re-do vacant industrial areas.
- Fund 17th St. projects to reduce congestion.
- I would like to see a park expanded at the Indian Fred Meyer area – and more attention paid to North Yellowstone where visitors are coming in from the Driggs/Victor/Jackson areas. More signage to inform etc. Place to rest . . . Also the strip of road along Pinecrest golf course on the north and west (along Yellowstone) always looks unkempt. Maybe a sidewalk there or bike path??
- Separation of different features, i.e., industrial areas, residential etc. . .
- Beltway, up available infrastructure (sewer, utilities, road), improve 17th St.
- In favor of good, long-term planning and lots of public input. This station today is a great idea to address planning options.
- Plan transition on 17th St.

Is there anything on this map you would not like to see in the future?

- Recreational buildings.
- Use permanent paint on major street markings.
- Less high density.
- Personally, I would not care for the population to grow to that extent, but it is bound to happen.
- I don't see anything that is troublesome. What is major employer expected to be? Is city going to move more industry – would like to see expectations for future base of economy.

- So much industrial zoning right along the river. The river is one of the most attractive assets in this community and it's a shame to have so much of it monopolized by ugly & polluting industries.
- It all looks great – but I know we can't have it all.
- Need more parks w/in city. What is the transportation plan? Is there a beltway? Projected population won't work w/road as they are!
- Dog park, Beltway around town.
- We need some dog parks!
- High density housing needs to have caps. What will the area west of Smiths look like 15-20 years from now?
- No.
- No.
- No.
- More recycling – with garbage pickup containers for glass, newspapers, cereal boxes, etc.
- Greenbelt extended.
- Provide low cost housing to singles & families. Av. State wage is \$6.99 per hr.
- I know a lot of young people they say that we don't have anywhere to play, skate parks, recreation buildings, bicycle parks.
- Continuing to expand the zoo & continued effort to build up downtown – thanks.
- Industrial between northgate mile & Anderson squanders potential retail space that is too concentrated in other places. It's also kind of ugly for tourists we hope will drive thru on their way to Nat'l parks.
- Beltway, 17th Street – work around traffic rather than facilitate it, please.
- No everything looks very positive.
- No.
- No.
- None.
- Employment centers unclear – large area not specific to what that does and how it will be used.
- A green belt around Id. Falls.
- New industry need to be clean.
- Would like to see "high density" area kept closer to center of town. I would like to see industrial areas moved away from the river.
- Higher density.
- More medical services on Westside.
- Need better access routes.
- Have private homeowner/developers pay for new roadways in advance of housing.
- Northgate mile industrial, I'd prefer that 17th Street west of Holmes not transition further to commercial. High density area/commercial areas on Sunnyside w/of River probably needs more arteries.

- We need to look @ downtown parking! New baseball field – let the fans pay for it?
- Move industrial areas away from river.
- Develop bike and walking paths.
- Nothing more for commercial on N 25th. We want the county to stay county.
- Industry on the river.
- Move industrial away from river.
- If the money/opportunity arises – check out Munsinger Gardens in St. Cloud, Minn – this is a huge beautiful flower garden – big tourist attraction (possible adjacent to Greenbelt) or Tautphaus Zoo/Park.
- No – but I think it is time we moved away from east congestion & spread out the town!!!
- Higher density townhouses.
- Beautifying downtown should be the expense of the building owners not the tax payer.
- Higher density and lower density neighborhood commercial, regional commercial, greenbelt mixed uses, neighborhoods.
- Anymore \$ spent to expand the greenbelt – there are already other parks, etc. that could be utilized for the function the city insists on keeping on the greenbelt. Other areas not so congested to use.
- Lack of major connecting roads to ease traffic congestion.
- Do not agree with high density townhomes or apt.
- Control of higher density apartments 20 per acre is too much. The apts by Smiths Food King are too close – inadequate parking. They will lose appeal in 15 years – tenements.
- No.
- No.
- No.

Additional Comments

- Idaho Falls needs to consider use of lands to increase quality of life. I am definitely interested in use of parks, recreation center, etc. I think it needs to be kept in perspective. How much green belt is really needed? I love the community park & feel it well utilized in a variety of ways by many citizens. I think that is a great example.
- Improve and maintain residential numbered streets.
- I think this is a great idea to get input.
- The intersection that needs help is Sunnyside and Hitt – I hope that is part of the plan of improving that road.
- Think it would be best to try to maintain walking –walkable or bikable communities to avoid the need for so many cars traveling. I didn't see any plan to provide additional electrical generation for the town. Will

need to up capacity to meet the needs of the city – perhaps work w/DOE & INL for innovative ideas or research.

- Retail development should proceed in a very careful manner to keep the city from getting “boxed in” with ugly, monolithic Big Box chain stores. Incentives should be developed to encourage & recruit independent retailers & restaurants.
- Thanks! We appreciate your planning effort!
- We are getting more vandalism in the area – when caught – the vandals should be held accountable.
- Pancheri Bridge over I-15 is SO dangerous. City/county need to work together on development of Pioneer Road into a true frontage road.
- Block streets off in downtown for walk parks would require 1-2 parking garages.
- Have more bike paths.
- Fun ideas! All are good!
- City keep out of what developers should pay for. Lower property taxes.
- We need culture and art!!
- Elect a city manager not a mayor.
- More concert halls, more arts & crafts shows, more things for kids to get involved with.
- I have lived in IF for almost 20 years – When I first moved here – as a single mom – I thought it was a dump – especially the zoo – over the years great efforts have been made to improve the city – in many ways – the zoo, the street, etc. Good job City of IF – only neg. comment – Recall Larry Lions!!!
- Improve appearance of entrances to IF – i.e. approaching IF from Shelley.
- Yellowstone Hwy has been getting very backed up lately (in the middle of the day) because of poorly timed lights at Broadway, A & B Streets – Stoplight timing in general is horrible along this stretch of Yellowstone, Holmes & 17th.
- Thanks, the future looks pretty good. This town can grow sustainability, and that’s cool. I’m from sprawling suburban Southern California, and I’d hate to see that happen here.
- Thank you for contributing to Mountain Man!!
- 17th Streets need “Help”. We need turn our lanes!!! & a wider street. More people to clean up the litter and stricter laws to prevent weeds & litter on commercial property!
- John Adams Pkwy should be striped as 3 lanes (turn lane) not 4 – 1st P. Hitt Rd. need major improvement.
- Provide loading/un-loading of American Orient Express train in front of Idaho Falls Museum! Not in front of the current freight station!!
- We need more parks, more recreational activities. We need to improve the health of downtown – maybe upscale condos? Need to take advantage of Battelle’s “campus” concept for research facilities in IF.

- I believe they should put a dock on the greenbelt.
- I am impressed with what our city offers – arts, art museum, natural history museum, fantastic zoo, beautiful parks – we need a convention center!
- I believe this city needs a bigger and better facility to take care of the homeless, like a bigger well keep hotel and also better religious programs for the poor, sick and lost citizens of this town.
- More funding for safer and more efficient intersections.
- We need a new hockey rink!!
- Better programs – more at BHC – Behavior Health Center. Need to review programs – assure best for youth.
- Introduce right-turning lanes. Video red-light runners – fine them.
- New & bigger skate park.
- Work on 17th Street, period, congestion is horrible.
- Neighborhood pocket parks – ground water subservice, retention ponds.
- The concept plan looks good and well thought out given location of current and planned arterials.